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TIMES

30p

FRIDAY JANUARY 19 1990

Republics at war as Russia drafts reserves

Gorbachov attacks anti-reform 'rabble'

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

President Gorbachov yesterday condemned "extremists, vandals and criminals" who were fanning conflict in the Trans-Caucasus, as Azerbaijani officials declared their republic was at war with neighbouring Armenia.

He also harshly criticized conservative opponents of his reforms, calling them "rabble" who wished to halt democratization for their own "unseemly ends".

The Soviet leader was addressing a meeting of workers and intellectuals in Moscow, as armed raids, arson and violent clashes continued unabated between Armenians and Azerbaijanis in the south.

General Dmitry Yazov, the Defence Minister, called up Soviet reservists as the 11,000 troops already in the troubled region fought to regain control of the situation.

The reservists are being used to guard roads and military bases, keep open

railway lines and reinforce the border regions with Turkey and Iran.

General Yazov, calling the situation a "major disaster", said there were too few regular interior ministry troops to keep order. He said the reservists as a rule were "young

men who recently served in the army and do not have families of their own."

The death toll in the clashes yesterday rose to 66 and the interior ministry said 220 people - including 26 police, and 31 soldiers - had been injured. More than 200 homes have been ransacked or set on fire, and there had been 66 raids on armories and Soviet government buildings. Troops had arrested more than 100 people.

The soldiers were empowered on Wednesday to open fire in self-defence and on militants attacking ammunition depots, but so far there have been no reports of their having done so.

Road blocks were still being set up in Azerbaijan and militants have enforced a virtual blockade of transit traffic to Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, the disputed Armenian enclave inside Azerbaijan.

Guerrillas also blew up the water mains in two districts of Nagorno-Karabakh, with the supply in Stepanakert, the capital of the hilly region, dropping by two-thirds.

In Yerevan, the Armenian capital, electricity and heating have become erratic, and transport is running irregularly. The city has only enough fuel for a few more days, and a big aluminium plant has shut down because of power cuts.

Armed groups are still roaming the countryside, capturing weapons, ammunition and equipment. A unit of 3,000 Armenian militants surrounded the village of Kerki in Nakhichevan, the Azerbaijani enclave wedged between Armenia and Iran, and opened fire, but Tass said no-one was killed.

Meanwhile, the flight of Armenians from Baku gathered pace with 4,658 leaving the city since Wednesday. Armenian television showed scenes at the airport in Yerevan where old men, women and children with swollen faces tearfully recounted how they were forced to run,

sometimes barefoot, through the streets, chased by bands of Azerbaijanis. The refugees said the pogroms began on January 10, when Azerbaijanis began beating any Armenians in their path.

A French doctor said one 70-year-old woman had been raped and had both arms broken. Members of a French humanitarian team in Yerevan said some 700 Armenians had arrived from Baku in the past three days. Refugees were being housed in a nearby village.

About 3,000 refugees have arrived in Moscow over the past two days, and hundreds are clustered in the permanent mission of the Armenian republic here. Mr Eduard Alkharjan, the mission's representative - the equivalent of a local ambassador to Moscow - said the city authorities were doing what they could to put up the refugees in hotels, guest houses and sanatoria.

These anxious families huddled in the old building in the city centre are being brought food and warm clothing by Muscovites.

Across the city in the Soviet mission, Mr Zaur Rustamov, the deputy head of the mission, accused Armenia of armed aggression in sending helicopters to shoot at Azerbaijanis.

"Military action with the use of helicopters and other means of destruction cannot be described as anything other than war," he told a press conference.

He said any attempt by the Soviet forces to impose a curfew in Baku would only inflame passions there. And he accused Moscow of "furious mistakes" by its indecisiveness in not curbing Armenian claims to Nagorno-Karabakh from the start.

In Baku, thousands of people demonstrated outside the Communist Party headquarters yesterday, demanding the removal of Soviet troops from the republic. One Azerbaijani party member said the local party appeared to have lost control of the situation. He said the nationalist Popular Front commanded huge support instead.

The Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent societies yesterday appealed for a truce to allow civilians to leave dangerous areas. They also called on militants to allow through food and baby food, medicines and warm clothing for the refugees.

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Reliving the baby snatch



Miss Caroline Taylor in a reconstruction yesterday of the abduction of a baby girl from St Thomas's Hospital, south London. Inset: Photofit of the wanted woman. Report: Page 2.

Pay awards threat

Jobless figures warning

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

Mr Michael Howard, the new Employment Secretary, yesterday warned that big pay awards threaten jobs as the downward movement of unemployment slows after falls for 41 consecutive months.

His warning accompanied figures showing that seasonally adjusted unemployment fell by 17,100 last month to 1,634,900. This was the smallest drop for three years.

The pound responded well, rising 0.3 points on its trade-weighted index, to 88.1, but fears about inflation and the Ford workers' rejection of a 10.2 per cent offer knocked £7 billion off share prices. The FT-SE index of the leading 100 shares ended 37 points lower at 2,336.9.

Retail price information to be published today is expected to show that price rises accelerated to an annual rate of 7.9 per cent last month from 7.7 per cent.

In the Commons, Mr John Major, the Chancellor, said that interest and mortgage rates would not be brought down until inflation is falling.

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Mr Howard said that while average earnings held steady, with annual growth of 9.25 per cent in November, unit wage costs were rising faster than in Britain's main competitors, putting jobs at risk.

In the third quarter, unit wage costs were 9.6 per cent

higher across the whole economy than a year earlier. This was the highest level since 1981, and augurs badly for future inflation.

Mr Howard said: "Job creation and lower unemployment will not continue unless pay settlements take account of the long-term competitive position of individual firms in all the circumstances which they face."

Mr Tony Blair, the shadow employment secretary, said the underlying trend of yesterday's figures should destroy Government complacency on unemployment. "It is clear that the unemployed will be expected to pay the price of Government economic incompetence," he said.

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Patten offers concessions to Tory poll tax rebels

By Robin Oakley and Nicholas Wood

Mr Chris Patten last night offered two last-minute concessions to buy off Conservative backbench rebels over the poll tax.

The Secretary of State for the Environment promised MPs that he was ready to review the new formula for allocating Whitehall grants to towns and county halls if they proved to discriminate against Tory authorities.

Second, he pledged that he would not hesitate to use his powers to "cap" increases if they occurred at the "horrendous" levels that had been suggested by some Labour councils.

The concessions came as the Prime Minister led a rearguard action to save the community charge from a humiliating rebuff and to head off one of the biggest backbench revolts she has faced in 10 years.

As the Government battled against potential defeat on vital orders bringing the financial framework of the new tax into effect, Mr Patten made the concessions, with the Prime Minister at his side to underline her personal stake in the final passage of her "flagship" legislation.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher herself appealed to her MPs to concentrate their fire on extravagant Labour authorities rather than attacking the Government.

The concessions had been mentioned privately to some doubting Tory MPs during the past few days in a desperate attempt to stave off defeat, and they undoubtedly did enough to placate some critics.

But Mr Patten still had a difficult ride from Conser-

vative MPs as he sought to justify the thinking behind the grant distribution.

A succession of Tory backbenchers rose to question him, illustrating the deep anxiety felt across all sections of the party about the poll tax and its electoral consequences.

The rebels, who nearly two years ago cut the Government's majority to 25, have been joined in the past six

months by a significant group of right-wing opponents who have been swayed on learning of the penalty the charge will exact from Conservative authorities.

But some Conservative critics saw the concessions as only marginal - there was no promise of any "new money" - and they were predicting that there would still be a big turnout for this Parliament of Tory MPs against their own Government.

Mr Patten specifically ruled out extra money to pay for the safety net switching money from rich to poor areas from its inception, saying there were better ways of spending £650 million.

He also refused extra cash to help the transition from rates to the community charge in low-rated areas, warning that this would only encourage local authorities to send even more. Addressing a rowdy Commons, Mr Patten was given a rough ride by his backbench critics.

In an attempt to defuse the tensions, he took nearly 20 interventions by Tory MPs in

Continued on page 20, col 3

Stalker friend cleared

Fraud charges against Mr Kevin Taylor, the property developer at the heart of the Stalker affair, were thrown out yesterday in what Mr John Stalker described as his "final vindication".

Mr Stalker, the former Manchester deputy chief constable who had been at the head of the "shoot-to-kill" inquiry into the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said the prosecution of his friend had been entirely spurious. "It was a contrivance to justify my

removal from the Northern Ireland investigation."

Mr Stalker was suspended from duty and removed from the inquiry as a result of the investigations which led Mr Taylor to Manchester Crown Court on fraud charges.

But yesterday, Mr Michael Corkery, QC, for the prosecution, said it would not be proper to proceed with the 16-week trial after defence counsel submitted evidence that misled a judge when they won

Continued on page 20, col 1

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INSIDE

THE TIMES GUIDE



TO HEALTHY LIVING

Sooner wed than dead?

● "From adolescence onwards sexuality and relationships can have all kinds of effects on our health." The Times Guide to Healthy Living concludes with an examination of the positive and negative power of love: page 10

Portfolio PLATINUM

● There was only one winner of yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 29

Bank bought

National Australia Bank, the third biggest in Australia, mounted a strong foreign challenge in British retail banking yesterday by announcing the purchase of Yorkshire Bank for £976.5 million. NAB, which also owns the Clydesdale Bank, Ulster's Northern Bank and the National Irish Bank will become the United Kingdom's eighth biggest bank in terms of profits. Page 21

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Kidney surgeon admits 14 years of unethical practice

By John Young

A leading kidney surgeon astonished a disciplinary hearing of the General Medical Council yesterday by admitting that for 14 years he had behaved unethically by operating on donors without first meeting them and ascertaining their background and medical history.

Mr Michael Joyce, Consultant Urologist at Guy's Hospital, London, was at one point reduced to tears when asked how he had felt while

listening to the evidence of four Turkish witnesses who, it is alleged, were paid to donate their kidneys. "Dreadful," he

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replied. It was "an appalling story".

Mr Joyce is one of three doctors charged with serious professional misconduct in relation to the alleged payments. Yesterday, he admitted

all eight charges after one of them had been amended to state that he had unwittingly taken part in the sale of human organs.

He said that at the time the operations took place in 1988, he did not think he was doing anything wrong.

He had never been aware of any ethical guidelines but, after listening to the views of eminent surgeons at the hearing, he realized that he had "cut corners".

Howe leaves it to Scots to resolve judge scandal

By Richard Ford
Political Correspondent

Government ministers yesterday refused to become involved in the controversy surrounding the resignation of a Scottish High Court judge, amid allegations of homosexuality.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Leader of the House, rejected demands in the Commons for a Government statement on the resignation of Lord Dervaid, who resigned after allegations of homosexuality were put to him by Lord Hope, the Lord President of the Court of Session.

Backbench MPs from all sides of the Commons said yesterday that without a statement on the resignation and other allegations concerning the activities of some other judges in Scotland whispering would continue and there would be

suspicions of an "establishment cover up". Sir Geoffrey insisted that the conduct of judges in Scotland was a matter for Lord Hope, the equivalent to the Lord Chief Justice in England.

He praised Lord Hope for having taken "prompt action to dispel rumours about events concerning the conduct of judges" north of the border.

As Sir Geoffrey resisted pressure for a statement, a former Master of the Rolls said any homosexual judge would be at risk from blackmail. Lord Denning said that although homosexuality was not illegal "it could be an element of blackmail against a judge".

He added: "Judges should be above reproach."

Lord Denning said although homosexuality was not a criminal offence, it

was wholly deplorable. "I've never known anything like this before in all my years - not even a whiff of such a scandal".

Lord Dervaid, aged 55, was advised shortly before Christmas to resign or face an inquiry. His resignation was announced on December 22 - less than two years after he went on the bench.

During questions to Sir Geoffrey about next week's business in the Commons, Mr Jim Sillars, Scottish National MP for Govan, demanded a statement on the resignation next week. He said: "It is far better that the Government come clean now than people believe there is a cover up".

Later Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Falkirk West, also demanded a statement on the issue.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Date for Wrens to join warships

Women are to go to sea on Royal Navy warships for the first time later this year, the Government is to announce next month (Ray Clancy writes). Ministers have won a fierce battle with admirals over the issue.

It is expected that about 1,500 of the 3,400 shore-based Wrens will take up the opportunity. They are likely to become radio and computer operators, stewards and possibly weapons officers and radar operators.

Whitehall sources indicated last night, however, that the arguments were far from over. The admirals are worried about the effect on morale and discipline.

However, Mr Archie Hamilton, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, recently visited a Dutch navy ship where women have been serving since 1981.

He was told that women are, if anything, more efficient at communications and computer operation than men and that fears about sexual tension had proved unfounded.

Secrecy battle, page 4

Purley rail crash trial

The driver of the express train involved in the crash at Purley, Surrey, in which five people died was yesterday committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court. Robert Morgan, aged 47, of Farringham, West Sussex, faces two manslaughter charges and one of endangering lives. More than 80 people were hurt in the crash on March 4 last year.

Mr Morgan was remanded on unconditional bail by Croydon magistrates until the hearing, on a date to be fixed. He is accused of the unlawful killing of Mr Colin Albert Clark and of Mr Eric Simper.

No strangers to drugs

Many children in Liverpool have a "street wise" knowledge of drug taking, pointing out dealers near their schools to teachers, a schools inspectors report said yesterday (David Tyler writes). The report into health education in 10 Liverpool primary schools said pupils often found discarded hypodermic syringes. "It is important that all schools provide education about drugs and it is unfortunate that some schools are deterred from this by a fear that such provision might invite to parents that the school itself has a problem with children using drugs," the report said.

Cigarette brands to go

The tobacco manufacturer John Player is to end production of six of its top-selling brands, including such famous names as Gold Leaf and No 6.

Imperial Tobacco, the parent company, blames a slump in sales. The lines to go are Gold Leaf, No 6 King Size and No 6 Filter, No 10, and John Player Kingsize, both ordinary and low tar. John Player, based in Nottingham, will continue to produce three brands: Superkings, John Player Special and Players Navy Cut. Imperial Tobacco said: "These days the sales of the six brands are fairly small."

TV appointments

The Government yesterday made two further appointments to the Independent Television Commission, which will allocate licences to all television channels under plans to shake up broadcasting (Richard Ford writes). Professor Sean Fulton, senior pro vice-chancellor at Queen's University, Belfast, and Mr Prantal Smith, a barrister, join Mr George Russell, Lord Chalfont, Lady Popplewell and Professor James Ring as members of the commission, which was set up in shadow from January 1, this year.

Health care helpers

New, unqualified support workers are to start working in the health service this summer, initially in areas where there are high vacancy rates for professionally qualified nurses (Jill Sherman writes). Mr Duncan Nichol, NHS chief executive, said that the new "health care assistants" would help with general patient care, leaving the most highly trained staff to concentrate on clinical care. The move is designed to help to overcome an expected fall in the number of students entering professional nurse training in the 1990s.

MEPs attacked for 'interfering' in dispute

By Tim Jones and Peter Guillard

Conservative MPs reacted furiously last night to an attempt by the European Parliament to "interfere" in the ambulance dispute.

As union leaders were faced with mounting pressure to hold a ballot for an all-out strike, the MEPs passed an emergency motion tabled by the Strasbourg Parliament's socialist group and the independent Rainbow coalition which called on the British Government to "recognize the need for independent binding arbitration" to quickly end the dispute.

The socialist-dominated Parliament voted 105 to 45 to send a resolution to the Government blaming the deadlock over the dispute wholly on its "refusal to countenance

the introduction of an automatic pay-fixing system to settle future wage demands."

The resolution, initiated by the British Labour group, marks the first big attack on Mrs Margaret Thatcher by the 180-strong socialist group since she rejected the Social Charter at the EC summit in December. The emergency resolution mentions Mrs Thatcher's lone stand against the charter, saying: "The Government's opposition to the maintenance of basic workers' rights has resulted in the erosion of UK labour law."

Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet South, said: "Whatever the rights and wrongs of the dispute it is no business whatever of the European Parliament to start interfering in a matter which is entirely the

responsibility of the domestic sovereign Parliament."

Mr Teddy Taylor, Tory MP for Southend East, said: "This has no relevance whatsoever other than being a mark of frustration at their lack of power. If the European Parliament closed down tomorrow no one would notice."

With no sign of an end to the dispute, more crews walked out on strike yesterday despite pleas by union leaders to maintain a basic 999 service.

In London, the strike spread as two more crews joined colleagues at Tottenham who have been on unofficial strike since Tuesday. London Ambulance Service denied union claims that they were anticipating an all-out strike by removing vital medical equipment

from ambulances. Nupé officials alleged that management personnel had visited more than 30 stations to remove the equipment.

Crews in stations in West Sussex also remained on strike as union leaders tried to prevent their colleagues in Manchester from taking similar action. In Wales, crews in South Glamorgan warned they would set up their own alternative emergency service unless managers restored full pay to all employees.

And in Clwyd, ambulancemen were planning a 24-hour strike which could lead to the Army being called in.

Both sides were urged to return to the negotiating table by the Church of Scotland. A statement said no dispute, "however important", was worth jeopardizing lives.

Ford workers split on vote for national wage strike

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

Ford's 32,000 workers could be split over whether to call a national strike as the company's most skilled blue-collar workers demand bigger rises.

Ford believes that the pay offer, which has been criticized by government ministers, may win acceptance from assembly line workers in secret ballots starting on Tuesday.

The assembly workers, the biggest single group making up a third of the hourly-paid workforce, have been offered an extra 3 per cent on a basic 10.2 per cent offer for the first stage of a two-year agreement. The second year will bring at least 8 per cent, making up rises of 24 1/2 per cent.

However, skilled maintenance workers, who provoked a series of wildcat disputes this week, look certain to hold out for more in an effort to boost differentials over unskilled and semi-skilled workers.

They are also angry at Ford plans to introduce special manufacturing teams of key groups of workers, who will receive rises of 20.2 per cent in return for training to operate high-technology equipment.

The special teams will get only 30 days training, they claim, undermining the key position of skilled technicians and craftsmen.

The Government voiced regret last night at the Ford workers' action as ministers intensified their warnings against inflation.

Mr Richard Ryder, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, told the Commons that industry had more to fear from inflation and high pay

awards than from interest rates. He was replying to Mr Andrew Mackay, Conservative MP for Berkshire East, who spoke of disappointment at the Ford offer and its "irresponsible rejection" by the unions. Mr Ryder said excessive pay awards ultimately caused unemployment unless they were matched by increases in productivity.

Mr John Major, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that productivity was vital to competitiveness and profitability and the opening up opportunities for investment, jobs and prosperity.

Union anger was underlined at Ford's plant at Halewood, Merseyside, where a three-day unofficial strike continued yesterday, halting production of 1,100 Escorts and Orion.

The main Dagenham plant was back to normal after a 24-hour wildcat strike timed to coincide with pay negotiations in London on Wednesday. At Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, 1,500 workers voted to return to work today.

The Halewood action takes the company's losses from wildcat strikes this week to nearly £60 million. More than 400 craftsmen at Merseyside have caused the lay-off of 6,000 production workers in their protest over the special teams programme.

The results of the ballot will be announced next Thursday. A strike vote will mean the shutdown of Ford's 21 British plants from the last shift on Friday night in a repeat of the damaging strike two years ago.

Head defends Muslim scarves

CHIRPS GLEAVE



Muslim pupils wearing traditional headscarves yesterday at Cheetham Church of England community school in Manchester. Mr Paul Barnes, the headmaster, said it was ridiculous of governors at Altrincham girls grammar school, in Trafford, Manchester, to suspend two Muslim sisters aged 15 and 14 since the start of term for wearing the scarves.

Hospital baby snatch re-enacted

By Ruth Gledhill

A bogus health worker who snatched a three-day-old baby girl from a south London hospital last week was stopped and questioned by a doctor on her way out, police disclosed yesterday.

The woman, who called herself "Christine", was stopped as she was leaving by the fire escape by a doctor concerned at the age of the baby she was carrying.

She told him it was two weeks' old, was reluctant to talk further and left, police said.

Yesterday, a police press officer played the part of

"Christine" in a reconstruction of the abduction of baby Alexandra Griffiths.

Miss Caroline Taylor, who bears a close resemblance to the bogus health worker who took Alexandra from St Thomas's Hospital, twice re-enacted the crime, in which a real baby was not used, exactly one week after the original abduction.

Police hope the reconstruction will jog the memory of someone who might have seen the abduction. Miss Dawn Griffiths, the baby's mother, had declined to take part.

Miss Taylor wore a beige

raincoat, cream blouse, brown skirt, gold necklace and high heel dark leather shoes, the clothes police believe that "Christine" was wearing.

She went first to the Haydon Ward on the seventh floor, where the bogus health worker had chatted with Patricia and Keith Hocking, whose baby escaped her attention because he was in a special care unit.

Like "Christine", Miss Taylor then went down the fire escape staircase to the Grovesnor Ward on the sixth floor, from where Alexandra was abducted.

She left with a carrycot nest

in her arms. This was decorated with blue and yellow elephants and teddy bears, similar to the one "Christine" was believed to be carrying.

Detective Superintendent John Bassett, leading the inquiry, said that in spite of more than 1,500 calls to the police, the inquiry had made little progress.

He criticized hoaxers whose calls have sent officers to dozens of false addresses.

He urged doctors, milkmen, and baby shop staff to be on the alert for any unusual or suspicious orders or purchases.

Student loans may go private

By Nick Wood and Sam Kiley

Ministers have not abandoned hopes of persuading the private sector to run the Government's student loans scheme. It emerged yesterday, in the wake of the disclosure that the Prime Minister was "fizzing with fury" at the last-minute refusal of High Street banks to administer the service.

Ministers believe that once the system is running it will be possible, after the next election, to sell the loans company to the highest bidder.

Although they deny that Mrs Thatcher threatened the banks with "retribution" they believe there would be poetic justice in a state concern, salvaged from the banks' withdrawal, giving rise to a private sector challenge to their hold on the student market.

Meanwhile, Mr Robert Jackson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said the word "retribution" had not been used by Mr John MacGregor, his Secretary of State, when conveying Mrs Thatcher's feelings to Sir John Quinlan, chairman of Barclays.

Hong Kong resettlement Ministers resist calls to defer nationality plans

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government resisted Conservative demands last night to defer its Hong Kong nationality package in the wake of China's suggestion that British passport holders would not be eligible for consular protection after 1997.

Ministers and officials denied suggestions that the Chinese stance had scuppered the proposals to grant British citizenship to the families of 50,000 key residents.

Government sources said it was a nonsense to suggest that the Chinese statements, about which ministers are seeking urgent clarification, would destroy the basis of the scheme, which was designed to give confidence to people to remain in Hong Kong.

However, Mr Steven Norris, chairman of the Conservative backbench home affairs committee, said the Chinese attitude undermined what the Government had been told by its own supporters - that the scheme was not practical.

"The time has come to put

the scheme on ice. It should be deferred. The scheme itself is inadequate and not popular."

Mr Norris said: "The Government should treat this as a long-term and not a short-term issue. The next five or six years - not months - should be concentrated on persuading the Chinese that Hong Kong is of as much commercial value to them as to Britain. China must recognize the need for action which will restore confidence in the colony."

Sir Hal Miller, Conservative MP for Bromsgrove, said that the Chinese attitude was not surprising. "China will not recognize two passports. That is why I was among those who tried to persuade the Government not to make this nationality announcement," he said.

Foreign Office sources said Hong Kong residents granted British citizenship would retain their Hong Kong residence under the agreement between the two countries. They would have the right to

consular protection, as did all British citizens abroad.

It has always been part of the agreement that Hong Kong residents who aspired to high public posts after 1997 would take Chinese nationality. British sources said these were the people who would have to make a choice between British and Chinese nationality. The big majority of those included in the package would be no difficulty.

Mr Hurd has been warmly praised by MPs for the way he handled his Hong Kong visit.

There is growing confidence that the nationality package will get through the Commons, particularly with a number of Labour MPs apparently determined to defy their leadership and to refuse to vote with Conservative rebels.

Sir Hal said yesterday: "I take no pleasure in it, but all the things I said were going to happen are happening. There has been a lot of naivety over this."

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Airlines back BA on aviation policy

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The world's airlines were yesterday sent details of a British plan to take aviation policy decisions out of government hands in an effort to end the congestion threatening to strangle the industry.

Years of frustration at the failure of governments to provide adequate facilities to enable airlines to provide a better service were brought into the open this week when Sir Colin Marshall, British Airways chief, demanded the creation of an international task force to tackle the crisis.

His comments were circulated to all 187 members of the International Air Transport Association, who immediately backed his

initiative. Sir Colin told aviation experts in New York that governments could no longer cope with the complexity of the problems and that unless these were tackled on a global basis the industry would be strangled over the next 10 years.

He called for large international airlines from Europe, the US, the Far East and Australasia to form a non-profit, industry-wide body which would enlist influential people to find a way out of the crisis, determine what needs to be done and put pressure on governments to act in a united way. "We cannot just sit there and let outside circumstances destroy our business efforts,"

Dry, cracked, chapped hands and lips?



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Kidneys-for-sale hearing

Doctor weeps as he admits 14 years of unethical surgery

By John Young

A surgeon admitted yesterday that all the kidney donor operations he had carried out in the past 14 years had been performed unethically.

Mr Michael Joyce said he was "sad, sorry and miserable" and would never perform any such operations again.

Mr Joyce, a urologist at Guy's Hospital, south London, told the General Medical Council that he had believed he was doing a good job. But after listening to the views expressed to the hearing on doctors' ethical responsibilities, he realized he had been cutting corners.

At one point, he broke down in tears when asked how he had felt listening to Turkish kidney donors giving evidence to the inquiry last month. "Dreadful," he replied, sobbing. He described their testimony as "horror on horror. I felt dirty," he said. The suffering that they had gone through appeared to be for no good reason. It was an appalling story.

Mr Joyce is one of three doctors charged with professional misconduct in relation to alleged payments to kidney donors. The others are Dr Raymond Crockett, a kidney specialist, and Mr Michael Bewick, a transplant surgeon.

All three have so far denied the charges, but yesterday Mr Joyce admitted seven of the eight charges against him.

The charges were that he removed kidneys from four live donors, Mr Ferhat Usta, Mr Ahmet Koc, Mrs Hatice Anilkan and Mr Coskun Yemici, and that in each case he failed to establish that financial or other improper inducements had not been made; whether the patient and recipient had a close and enduring relationship; the circumstances in which the patient's kidney was being provided; that the patient understood the risks; to procure a freely-given consent in writing, and to discuss the proposed operation beforehand with the patient.

An eighth charge that he acquiesced in the sale of human organs was changed to one that he unwittingly took part in the sale, which he also accepted.

Under questioning from his counsel, Mr John Goldring, QC, Mr Joyce said he did not know why the four donors

were giving their kidneys or that money was changing hands. "Had you known, would you have performed these nephrectomies?" "No."

He had been misled by Dr Bewick. "The only reason I did it was as a technician. I was looked upon as a worthwhile technician, and I took pride in that."

"I feel I have been exposed and let down by other colleagues who knew what I was doing and who have even tried to persuade me to do things while I have been waiting to come here."

He had been doing operations all over the South-east for 16 years, not just by arrangement with Mr Bewick

another patient. They discovered afterwards the woman's kidney had been sold by her broker husband for the price of an alarm clock. Mr Bewick was "horrified" when he learned the truth.

Mr Goldring asked: "Did you think he would ever allow it to happen again if he could prevent it?"

Mr Joyce replied: "He would not allow it to happen again."

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel for the GMC, suggested Mr Joyce should have taken the 1985 case as a warning, and Mr Joyce agreed that all the ethical problems stemmed from the fact the surgeon did not view the donors as his own patients.

"Once you realize that it is your patient, it transforms your attitude, doesn't it?" Mr Henderson asked. "Totally," he replied.

Mr Joyce admitted that he seldom, if ever, looked at the notes and reports on patients before operating. His notes on the operations became shorter as time went on, and by 1988 were probably only a rough diagram. He had made none at all in the case of the four Turkish donors, leaving the task to his anaesthetist.

Mr Joyce, aged 46, said that Mr Bewick — whom he met at Guy's — had charisma, was enthusiastic about everything and had boundless energy. "His commitments to his patients and to his work impressed me unbelievably," Mr Joyce said.

Together, they had carried out live donor operations at hospitals in Brighton, Dulwich and Carshalton. At first he was nervous, but also felt proud and excited.

He would see patients only "just before" the operation and sometimes they would already be under anaesthetic. He admitted that had he been asked who a particular kidney had come from or who it was going to, he would not have known; although he would have assumed a relationship between the donor and recipient.

Mr Joyce said he knew Dr Crockett by reputation before he met him; but had never visited the National Kidney Centre in north London, and in all, the doctors met only half a dozen times.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Michael Joyce: "I was let down by my colleagues."

but with other surgeons who must have known much more than he about transplant ethics.

Mr Joyce said he did not take either *The Lancet* or *The British Medical Journal* and had been unaware of guidelines issued by the Transplantation Society, an international body set up to discuss ethical questions, and by the British Transplantation Society, but after listening to evidence from Mr Robert Ross-Taylor, former president of the British society, he realized his approach had been unethical.

"I never felt it before I came here," he said. "I felt I was doing a good job." He had never felt himself to be "in the transplantation scene"; his colleagues, he was ashamed to say, saw him as a mere assistant. "I should not have been."

Mr Joyce said that in 1985 he removed a kidney from a living Indian woman and Mr Bewick transplanted it into

suspended last Friday and the firm has asked retailers to return supplies.

Environmental health officers, who make random checks on food production, identified one shop sample of Plumrose which proved to be positive, further checks disclosed another and that led to an investigation by the Government-run Public Health Laboratory.

Its analysts found that 13 out of 15 samples from a Plumrose distribution warehouse contained *Listeria*, some to an unacceptably high level.

Plumrose has launched its own checks to determine how the ham became infected during production.

Mr Stan Shreeve, managing director of Plumrose, part of the Copenhagen-based multinational East Asiatic Company, said: "The measures we have taken are purely precautionary, to reassure customers."

"There have been no cases of *Listeria* linked to our products." The advice not to eat the ham applies only to consumers recognized by the Department of Health as being vulnerable.

Those are pregnant women and those with impaired resistance to infection, including transplant patients, those on drugs which depress the immune system and those with leukaemia or cancers of the lymphatic tissues. The elderly are only considered at risk if their immune system is low.

The alert is the latest in a line of *Listeria*-related food scares. Last summer, a Department of Health survey found that 10 per cent of all pâté was contaminated with *Listeria*.

It can be destroyed by cooking and the danger lies in ready-to-eat foods such as soft cheeses and pre-cooked meats where the food is open to post-process contamination.

In 1987 there were 259 notified cases of *Listeria*. That rose to 291 in 1988 and

provisional figures for 1989 show 247 cases. In 1988 11 people died from *Listeria*. No published death figures are available for 1989.

The Public Health Laboratory said: "*Listeria* is ubiquitous. Exposure to it is unavoidable. One in 20 people carry it in their gut. In pregnant women if they acquire the infection the effects can range from nothing to feverish flu like illness. It can cross the placenta where it then may affect the foetus."

The Department of Health said: "The firm has acted responsibly. Both the product withdrawal and the department's advice are precautionary measures. No cases of *Listeria* have been linked to these products."

Plumrose also produces Chicken and Turkey Roll, Garlic Sausage, Danish Sausage and Chopped Pork with Ham at King's Lynn. The alert does not extend to Plumrose tinned meats.

domestic situation." Mrs Cecilia Norman, head of the London Microwave Cooking School and a member of the Microwave Association, said that the Austrian report was another attempt at "hell-raising" after the discovery in government tests last month that one third of microwave ovens failed to heat food thoroughly to 70C.

The dispute between farmers and food processors over responsibility for the source of *Listeria* poisoning in food may soon be ended by new research (Pearce Wright writes).

Animal Diseases Research Association scientists at the Moredun Research Institute, Edinburgh, are perfecting a method for the biochemical fingerprinting of thousands of strains of the bacteria, *Listeria monocytogenes*, that endangers the life of unborn babies.

It should show clearly whether food contamination came from the farm or was introduced in the factory, the scientists said.

West Germany has denied reports that it plans to follow up its ban on British beef with restrictions on UK-produced sheep meat (Paul Wilkinson writes). However, the National Farmers' Union still asked Mr John Gummer, the Minister for Agriculture, yesterday to take the matter up at a meeting of European Community ministers next week. More than 20 per cent of British sheep are infected with scrapie, a brain disorder allied to "mad cow" disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, which has developed in British cattle.

formula milk in a microwave oven. However, the ministry said: "The study looked at extremes, using samples heated in sealed containers until they turned brown at temperatures in excess of 100C. The scientists conveniently forgot to mention that no changes occurred in samples subjected to normal heating."

Dr Cottrell said that had the claim been presented as a scientific paper, a professional referee would want to know what chemical changes took place during conventional cooking. "The sweep of the evidence is that microwaving is not fundamentally different as a physical process to infra-

red radiation. Everything is toxic, depending on how much of it you take."

The Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances, representing the microwave industry, said: "It is not surprising that any sample of food or milk should change its structure when submitted to gross over-heating of the kind carried out in this test, whether this be through microwaving, boiling or other forms of direct heating."

The association said: "It is unlikely that manufacturers will wish to duplicate this particular test as it bears no resemblance at all to the way a microwave is used in the

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Actors say farewell to Jackson



Top left, Rona Anderson, widow of Gordon Jackson, the actor, who died of cancer aged 66, with Jean Marsh, who appeared with him in *Upstairs Downstairs*, at his funeral at the actor's church of St Paul's, Covent Garden, central London, yesterday. Above, Robert Fleming (left) and Sir Alec Guinness. Patsy Collins and her daughter carry flowers.

Police divided over national unit

By Stewart Tindler
Crime Correspondent

Chief constables were split yesterday over the concept of setting up a national detective force to investigate top level criminals.

A meeting of the country's senior officers put back a decision on a blueprint for a national unit drawn up by a chief constables' working party and decided to delay a decision until more detailed work has been done on how such a unit should work.

Eventually a national unit could be set up using seconded officers working through a regional network, or the chief constables could decide to continue

using the existing regional crime squad system, adding a larger London component.

The idea of a national criminal investigation unit was first floated last year by Sir Peter Imbert, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. In the autumn the Association of Chief Police Officers decided it would examine setting up the unit and explore the idea of a national investigation unit to provide an operational arm.

At yesterday's meeting, the chief constables gave their support for the intelligence unit which has been the association's policy for some time but they want more work on the blueprint for the operational arm. There are questions

over its funding, accountability, and the relationship between such a unit and local forces.

After the meeting Mr John Dellow, president of the association and Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said he was delighted that "we are still in the business of looking at a very important subject."

The model proposed yesterday would have included about 2,500 officers who would investigate both national and international crime such as drug trafficking, criminal gangs and international syndicates. The unit would play a key role in Britain's liaison with other countries over policing after internal frontiers are relaxed in the EC in 1992.

Tebbit to pay damages to Keays

By Michael Horsnell

Mr Norman Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman, agreed to pay substantial libel damages yesterday to Miss Sara Keays, the former mistress of his ex-Cabinet colleague Mr Cecil Parkinson.

He agreed in the High Court to pay an undisclosed amount over unfounded allegations in his autobiography *Upwardly Mobile*, published in 1988, that she had broken an undertaking not to comment on the relationship.

Miss Keays also gained agreed undisclosed damages yesterday over a *Daily Express* article the same year claiming she arranged for the press to be present when her daughter, by Mr Parkinson, left hospital after a brain operation, to obtain publicity to avenge herself on the minister.

Mr Michael Jones, political editor of *The Sunday Times*, was given a public apology and "substantial" undisclosed libel damages by *Private Eye* yesterday over an article implying he abused his position to secure a work permit for a journalist.

Mr Roger Carroll was awarded £6,000 damages over allegations in *The Sunday Times* that he "walked out" of his job as personal finance editor on the *Sunday Telegraph* after the announcement of its merger with *The Daily Telegraph*.

PORTFOLIO

Winner to share her good luck

The winner of yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was Mrs Christa Weber, of Thetchem in Surrey.

She said she was "absolutely delighted" with her good fortune, although according to the terms of a long-standing agreement, she will share the money with her three children.

"One of them is a student, and the other two are setting up homes, so it will be very useful to them," she said.

"My own share will be spent on a new driver to enhance my golf. I've been playing twice a week at a local club for the past four years, and until now have been getting nowhere fast."

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See balances of below £10,000, one withdrawal of up to £3,000 allowed per calendar year. Further withdrawals in same year subject to 90 days' notice or 90 days' loss of interest on amount withdrawn. Balances over £10,000, instant access with no penalty after initial 90 day period. Rates may vary. Interest at time of notice to pay. Interest paid annually. Withdrawals from branches up to £250 in cash per day and £100,000 by cheque. Larger amounts available by cheque in just a few days. Nationwide Anglia Building Society, Chatterfield House, Bloombury Way, London WC1N 3LW.

Judge rules against MoD's right to keep death reports secret

By David Saped

The Ministry of Defence's justification for keeping under wraps internal reports into accidents and deaths involving servicemen was "entirely rejected" by a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr Justice Popplewell's judgment was made in a test case brought by the widow of a Naval airman who died after a drinking bout at a British training base in Norway where off-duty drunkenness was regarded as the norm.

It opens the way for the publication of the hitherto secret reports and could lead to actions for damages against the ministry by injured servicemen and by families of those who have died.

Mr Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, had campaigned for Mrs Dawn Barrett, one of his Yeovil constituents, to see the MoD's board of inquiry report into her husband's death two years ago. He hailed the ruling as "a step in the right direction for freedom of information" which could give Mrs Barrett a chance to discover the truth about her husband's death.

Mrs Barrett's application to have access to the full report

before instituting legal action over the death of Naval Airman Terence Barrett was rejected by the judge.

He ruled she already had sufficient evidence to initiate a claim against the ministry. Her solicitors, the London firm of Stewarts, did so immediately after the ruling, seeking a six-figure sum.

Crucially, however, the judge went on to rule against a submission by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, that board reports should continue to enjoy their traditional secrecy on the grounds of "public interest immunity". The ruling meant that Mrs Barrett could take steps to see the report after the serving of a writ for damages.

Mr Justice Popplewell said: "I entirely reject the contention that, unless these [board of inquiry] proceedings are privileged, there will be a lack of candour [by servicemen giving evidence to a board]. Nor do I agree that the absence of confidentiality will affect the proceedings."

The judge also rejected the ministry's contention that publication of reports could endanger morale, discipline or

safety. He said that, barring overriding technical or national security reasons, the reports should be published.

Mrs Barrett, aged 29, said afterwards that she hoped she would now be able to see the full, 260-page report into her husband's death. Initially, the ministry offered her a two-page summary and, later, one running to 15 pages.

She said after the judgment: "The ruling was very positive and I am hopeful I will, finally, get to know the full circumstances of my husband's death."

The MoD said last night: "We are considering the implications of the judgment."

After Mr Barrett's death, at the court martial of the officer commanding the base at Bardufoss, it was said that excessive drinking had been a normal feature of life.

On the evening of Mr Barrett's death, as he celebrated his 30th birthday, between 20 and 25 senior ratings drank 24 litres of vodka and other drinks. Mr Barrett choked on vomit. The commanding officer was severely reprimanded for failing to "discourage drunkenness"

Monroe look, 90s style, in new Bus Stop

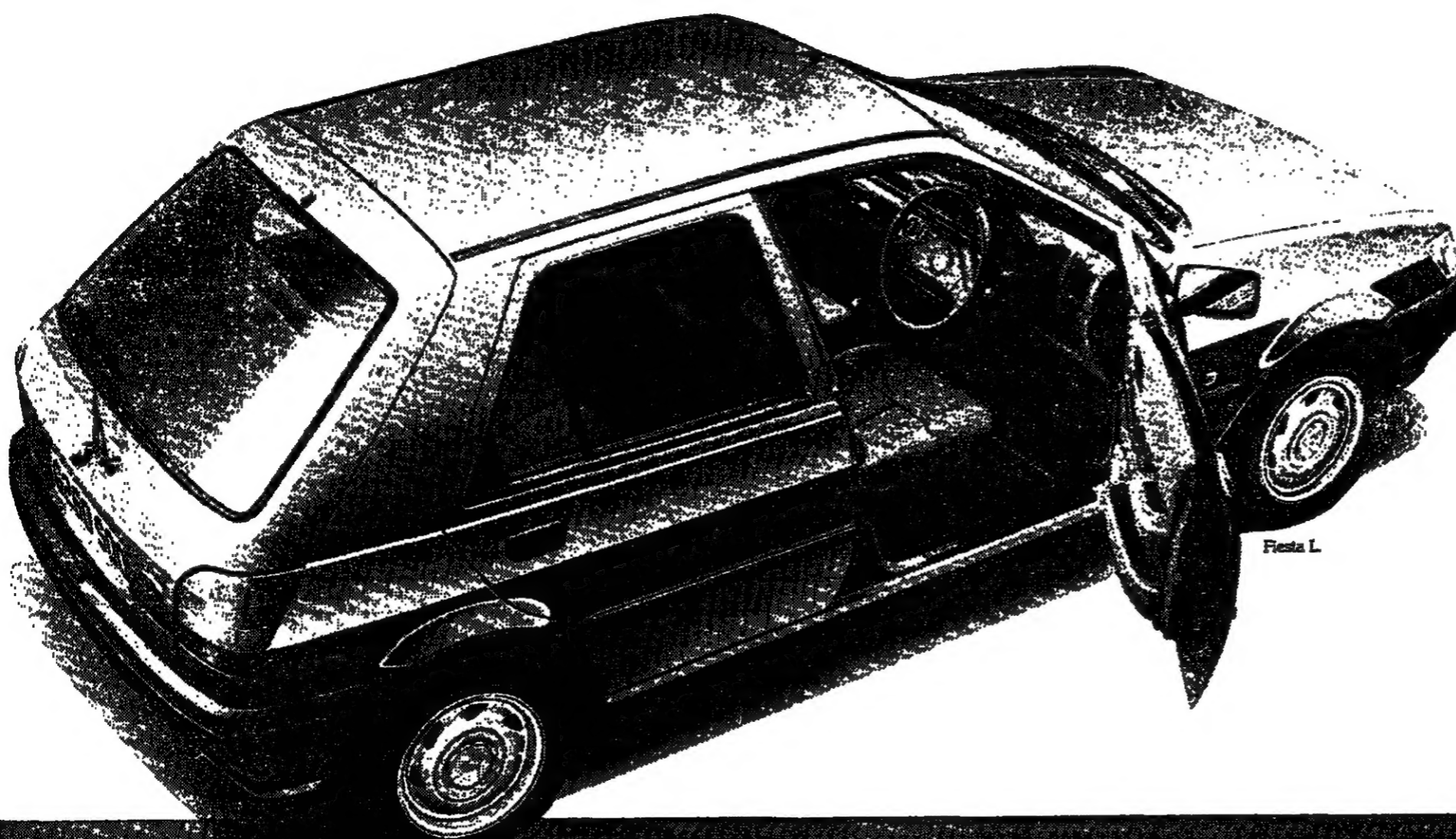
GRAHAM WOOD



Jerry Hall and Shann Cassidy, who will make their British stage debuts next month in the William Inge play, *Bus Stop*, at the Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, with (right) Marilyn Monroe and Don Murray as they appeared in the same roles in the film version of the play, first staged on Broadway in 1955.



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Charge for Credit	£349.36	£409.02	£468.02
Total Credit Price	£6269.36	£7324.02	£8399.02
7.9% (15.3% APR)			
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1184.00	£1396.60	£1586.20
36 Monthly Payments of	£162.75	£190.38	£218.01
Charge for Credit	£122.28	£131.48	£150.55
Total Credit Price	£17042.28	£18247.48	£19434.55
8.9% (17.0% APR)			
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1184.00	£1396.60	£1586.20
48 Monthly Payments of	£133.79	£156.59	£179.24
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*Maximum retail prices as at January 2nd 1990 including delivery. Delivery is to dealer premises with exception of Channel Islands and Isle of Wight when a further charge will be made.

Finance Plans end February 15th.



هكذا من الأصل

Fate of 'Three Graces' seen as export rule test

Confidence in Britain's system for protecting items of supreme heritage importance against export will collapse if Canova's sculpture "The Three Graces" is lost abroad, according to a report published yesterday.

The 20-page document, *Save the Woburn Canova*, contains impassioned pleas by an impressive number of art world grandees. It is published by SAVE Britain's Heritage and the art magazine *Apollo*. The sculpture seems likely to go to the Getty Museum in the US after March 12.

The report says Antonio Canova is one of the greatest of all sculptors to be "ranked with Praxiteles, Donatello, Michelangelo, Bernini and Rodin and 'The Three Graces' is internationally recognized as one of his finest works".

Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich says in the document that if the work, which was commissioned by the 6th Duke of Bedford for Woburn Abbey in 1815, was allowed to be exported, "future generations will never forgive us". Sir John Julius Norwich comments that it would be a tragedy if it were to leave.

Mr Jonathan Scott, chairman of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, and until now a supporter of the free trade system, calls it a "test case" for Britain's export controls. "If such an important work of art as 'The Three Graces' is lost, it is hard to argue that we have sufficient confidence in our system to proffer it to other countries as a model for 1992."

Until now, he adds, our system, of temporary stops - which give museums opportunities to match the prices of works of art - has been perhaps the fairest in Europe; but if a sculpture of such quality and significance is allowed to go abroad, he

argues, the system will have failed.

Only if our museums were to be "properly funded and if the 'indefinite stop' were to be reinstated" could the UK system be "proposed as a basis for other EC countries".

The record price for a work by the Edwardian artist Charles Spence (1865-1958) passed the £100,000 mark at Sotheby's in Chester, when a fastidiously painted picture of a clockmaker fetched £112,200. It was more than four times the previous record for his work.

The painting, entitled "Time on his hands", shows an elderly craftsman tinkering lovingly with a pocketwatch.

SALEROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market
Correspondent

on a table. Behind him hang various dismembered clocks, and a sign saying "A. Spring, Watch and Clock Maker".

Bought from the artist by a Liverpool industrialist shortly after it was painted in the 1940s, it was yesterday sold by his son to a Liverpool businessman, who was bidding in the room.

He prevailed in a battle against a big London dealer who was bidding by telephone. The businessman's wife began the bidding, but soon lost her nerve, whereupon he took over.

"I thought I might have stuck my neck out too far by estimating £30,000 to £50,000," said Sotheby's specialist, Mr Martin Gallon, said. "How wrong I was."

Mr Gallon warned owners of other Spence works not to be too excited about the price. "This painting was unique," he said, although it made Spence "one of the recognized Victorian artists".

RIBA award for primary school

By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent

An innovative primary school building in Birmingham has received the first annual Building of the Year Award from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Designed by Mr Will Howland, of Birmingham City Architects Department, the Nelson Mandela community primary school blends with neighbouring semi-detached houses with its traditional appearance.

Inside, however, there are no corridors or conventional classrooms but spaces which flow into one another, only divided by sliding screens and doors. This allows staff to combine supervisory and teaching functions.

At the awards dinner last night at the institute's headquarters in Portland Place, west London, Mr Max Hutchinson, RIBA president, said he had selected it from 16 award-winning buildings.

"The architecture of most school buildings makes a point of imposing authority. This building is not full of no-go areas. It is concerned with what children can do rather than what they cannot do. The

response of the pupils is a credit to the teaching staff and Mr Howland."

The National Awards jury commented: "In spite of gloomy predictions there is not a hint of vandalism, a sure sign of the affection that this place has won with the community it serves."

A £6.5m plan to restore the historic Royal Pump Rooms at Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, to include both private and NHS medical treatment, was unveiled yesterday (Craig Seton writes).

Warwick District Council, which owns the freehold on the building, said that the scheme was intended to improve and enhance the pump rooms.

Conservation groups had claimed that plans to develop the site as a private health clinic would destroy the historic facade of the building. However, Mr Michael Ward, chief executive of Warwick District Council, said that the scheme put forward by Professional Parks Ltd, of Newcastle Upon Tyne, would involve rebuilding only at the rear of the pump rooms.

Cashing in on green boom

Advertisers alerted over inaccurate environment claims

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Advertisers were warned yesterday not to make unwarranted environmental claims about products in an attempt to cash in on the "green" consumer boom.

Agencies and clients which made over-optimistic assessments of goods left themselves open to counter-attacks from rival manufacturers and environmental activists as well as annoying shoppers, the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers said.

The advice, in a guide for advertisers about environmental claims, comes in the wake of well-publicized cases of manufacturers being reprimanded for making wildly inaccurate claims about the supposed environmental advantages of their products.

The Advertising Standards Authority, which is monitoring the new advertising trend, disclosed in its latest case report this week that it is continuing to receive public complaints about a number of businesses over the presentation of their "green claims".

Friends of the Earth re-

cently made "Coo of the Year" awards to advertisers after complaints that a large number of companies were anxious to present a green image "even though their business activities may remain far from green".

British Nuclear Fuels was given the main award for an advertisement headlined: "Just how Green are you about Nuclear Power?" The runners-up were Higgs Furs, whose slogan stated: "Environmental Friendly furs by Higgs".

Car companies such as Audi, Volkswagen, Citroën, and Saab were highlighted for dubious "green" claims such as "harmless carbon dioxide". Austin Rover, BP Oil UK and Citroën have also been reprimanded by the authority after complaints about advertisements.

The environmental soundness of a company and its products is playing an ever-increasing role in shoppers' minds and can help provide an extra competitive edge in sales. The advertisers' society,

which represents Britain's main advertisers, yesterday told companies of "the dangers that exist if environmental issues are unwisely used as the basis for promotional claims, seeking to appeal to consumers' altruistic nature".

Mr Ken Miles, director of the society, writing a foreword to the guide, said: "Advertisers and their agencies may believe that they can get a competitive advantage by incorporating an environmental claim; but they may not appreciate that in doing so they will leave themselves wide open to criticism from environmental activists and experts within rival companies, if their claims do not stand up to the closest scrutiny."

"This scrutiny and criticism may often be unfair or irrelevant, since it may draw attention to an environmental issue which relates to a totally different part of the company, or a totally different product. Nevertheless, this is the way in which activists and possibly competitors will work, and the ISBA want to make sure that companies recognize the dangers."

"These comments apply not only to advertising claims but also to claims on packs, remarks made in annual reports, company literature, sales promotion, and of course in public relations activities."

He added: "It is therefore essential that companies do think carefully about the down-side of environmental claims as well as about the possible advantages."

"Doubtful claims could lead to a cynical consumer attitude about advertising as a whole and to negative responses by government ministers who want industry to take environmental matters seriously."

Although the Government is planning proposals for legislation on environmental labelling this year, this will not cover advertising. The society has suggested the British Code of Advertising Practice and the Independent Broadcasting Authority's advertising code should include a new clause about environmental claims.

Prince Michael tries out Hyde Park ride



Prince Michael of Kent trying out the first section of the new East Carriage Ride in Hyde Park, London. With him are (from left) Captain Barry McKay, Mrs Basia Briggs, Lieut-Colonel Seymour Gilbert-Denham, Lieut-Colonel Dick Morrissey Paine and

Mr Richard Briggs. The King's Old Road - or Rotten Row - was constructed as a carriage drive 300 years ago, but a part was removed after the Second World War (Libby Jakes writes). Prince Michael is patron of the Hyde Park Appeal which

aims to provide a new bridleway between Hyde Park Corner and Marble Arch, to enable riders once more to make complete circuits of the park. Equestrian events this year culminate in London in September in a cavalcade of horses and carriages.

Energy efficiency keynote of 1990s

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Property developers, building owners and funding institutions are becoming more aware of energy conservation and environmental issues, and believe they will be even more important in the 1990s, according to a survey published yesterday on the eve of a London exhibition on energy efficient buildings.

The survey, carried out for ECD Partnership, organizers of the exhibition, at Smith's Gallery, Covent Garden, shows that in the 1970s about 45 per cent of the property industry felt energy conservation in buildings was an important issue. By the end of the 1980s that had increased to 76 per cent. The firms in the survey expect it will become increasingly important in the

1990s, with 84 per cent rating it very highly.

The survey also showed there was strong support for "labelling" buildings to demonstrate how environmentally friendly they are. Property developers and building owners were most in favour (67 per cent and 83 per cent respectively); housebuilders and funding institutions were less enthusiastic (56 per cent and 47 per cent respectively).

Mr David Turrent, a partner in the ECD Partnership, architects and energy consultants, said: "We had a feeling there was a growing awareness of energy and environmental issues among the property world, and this survey has conclusively shown that this is the case."

Road-building opponents 'abusing public concern'

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

Concern about the environment is being "used and abused" to prevent much needed investment in new roads to ease congestion, Mr Peter Witt, director of the British Road Federation, said yesterday.

In an attack against the anti-road building lobby, Mr Witt said that the roads debate was "being conducted in a climate where reality and fact are too often relegated to the sidelines by hyperbole and disinformation".

He accused environmental groups such as Friends of the Earth, as well as transport academics, of proposing "is-

norant and simplistic solutions" to transport problems, "which are unsustainable when critically examined".

Mr Witt blamed traffic congestion on the Department of Transport failing to forecast accurately the growth of traffic and to meet this with sufficient investment - although this was slowly being rectified.

Environmental groups, however, have argued that successive governments have locked themselves into big road-building programmes, which have encouraged wider car ownership to fill the amount of available road.

Challenging the environ-

mentalists' argument that road congestion could be reduced by transferring a large proportion of freight to rail, Mr Witt insisted that average freight journeys in Britain were under 50 miles, and therefore, uneconomical by rail.

Mr Witt agreed that more money should be invested in public transport, but he rejected environmentalists' calls to "restrict and discourage" vehicles.

"This is contrary to what people really want," he said. Friends of the Earth said Mr Witt did not understand that most people did not support new road schemes.

New teaching methods 'add to problems of dyslexics'

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

State schools were accused yesterday of compounding the problems of dyslexic children by the use of fashionable modern teaching methods.

The executive director of the British Dyslexia Association, Mr Michael Sterne, said that the National Curriculum, with its implicit endorsement of present methods, would only make matters worse.

Launching the 1990 Dyslexia Awareness Campaign, Mr Sterne said there was no evidence to justify the widely used system of teaching children to read by showing them whole words rather than individual letters.

The method known as "look-say", in which five-year-olds learn to recognize complete words, has largely supplanted approaches based on learning the sounds of letters which are then combined to spell words.

Mr Sterne said there was overwhelming evidence from research in Britain, the United States and France that children with dyslexia had difficulty relating the sounds made by letters to the symbols on the page. By reintroducing traditional methods, nine out of 10 dyslexic children could be taught to read and write normally, he said.

"Teaching reading should include teaching the ways in which letters and letter combinations correspond with sounds, known as the alphabetic principle," Mr Sterne said.

"There is not, to my knowledge, a single research study to support the view that the alphabetic principle should not be taught. On the contrary, there is overwhelming evidence that it should. The great

majority of children who fail to develop literacy do so because of problems relating sounds to words." The association estimated that 32,000 dyslexic children started school each year to add to the total of 350,000 dyslexics already in the school system. Yet only 1,500 teachers were specially trained to help them.

The awareness campaign has the support of a number of distinguished dyslexics, including the former Cabinet Minister Mr Michael Heseltine, Jackie Stewart, the former world racing champion, and the actress Beryl Reid.

It marks the start of International Literacy Year and will involve displays about dyslexia in 3,000 libraries, 1,000 Citizens' Advice Bureaux, more than 1,000 Job Centres and at W H Smith, Do-It-All and Our Price shops.

Speaking at the campaign launch, the Olympic swimmer Duncan Goodhew, a dyslexia sufferer, said he was branded "Duncan the Dunc" at prep school. Yet with proper coaching he went on to university in the United States to study business and economics. He said: "I was isolated as being stupid. If you are told something often enough you begin to believe it. It was very confusing and incredibly frustrating."

Mr Richard Rogers, the architect who designed the Lloyd's Building in London,



Richard Rogers: Was told he was "daft and backward".



Duncan Goodhew: Went on to study at university.

said his parents had been told he was "daft, backward, incapable and unruly" because he suffered dyslexia.

When he asked staff about his career prospects he was told: "You are lazy, you are thick - what about the South African police?"

School leavers are to be asked to help teachers run classes in schools facing one of the worst teacher shortages in the country. They would be paid about £90 a week pocket money and expenses.

Negotiations are taking place between Community Service Volunteers and the Borough of Tower Hamlets in east London, where about 400 children are still waiting to be admitted to primary schools because there is nobody to teach them.

Schools wanting to set up small businesses were told yesterday that "the desire for profit could blinker students' learning".

The warning from the schools' inspectors came a day after Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, had launched a nation-wide scheme to encourage schools to run their own companies as part of the National Curriculum.

Inspectors had visited 60 schools, primary and secondary, to examine the "Mini-enterprise" scheme originally sponsored by the NatWest Bank in 1985, who gave loans of £50 to approved projects. Many of them had been successful but the inspectors say that few had a clear set of objectives and that insufficient consideration had been given to the consequences of some schemes.

Lifeguards threaten pollution boycott

Britain's lifeguards have threatened to stop patrolling beaches because of pollution.

The Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain said yesterday its services will be withdrawn from shores where dirty water made volunteers ill. The organization's medical officers are testing seasides around the country for evidence of pollution.

The president, Mr Charles Thomson, said the association was checking reports of dysentery and skin disorders.

Blast survivor

A man aged 25 survived with burns and chest injuries after being blown from the third floor in an explosion at a tower block in Ramsgate, Kent. A gas leak is thought responsible.

Police help

The West Midlands police force has appointed its first full-time clergyman. Canon Barry Wright, an ex-chief inspector, will offer counselling to officers of all rank.

Found dead

Mrs Anne Eggleton, a senior nurse who ran the emergency unit at Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon, Wiltshire, where many of the victims of the Hungerford massacre were taken, has been found dead at her home after inhaling exhaust fumes.

Wind abates

Faulty equipment was responsible for a "record" 161mph gust of wind recorded on Tuesday night in the Outer Hebrides, the Meteorological Office said.

Archers village loses a round

By Craig Seton

A satellite village can be considered for a site at Hanbury, Hereford and Worcester, the rural community that inspired the fictional village of Ambridge in the BBC radio series *The Archers*, Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, decided yesterday.

An action committee representing Hanbury villagers, which had hoped Mr Patten would block the proposed development of 1,000 homes, said last night that it was "devastated" by his decision.

The decision that a satellite village at Hanbury, near Droitwich, can be considered was contained in modifications proposed by Mr Patten to the Hereford and Worcester county structure plan, which were published yesterday.

Mr Patten said the alterations were aimed at providing a balance between the need for development and maintaining a strong green belt to preserve the environment.

Residents of Hanbury, with a population of 800, had claimed that a new village of more than 1,000 homes, including a golf course and other leisure developments, would destroy the community that had changed little for centuries.

Mr Michael Thompson, a leading member of the action

committee fighting the proposed development by William Davis Homes, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, and Barratts, of the West Midlands, said yesterday: "We have lost the first skirmish, but the fight goes on. People here are very angry at this devastating news."

Mr Thompson said that hopes of Mr Patten blocking the development had been raised when the Secretary of State ruled against a similar scheme proposed for Foxley Wood, Hampshire, which was also fiercely opposed.

He said: "Mr Patten has talked about leaving planning matters to local people. Well, there is no doubt what local people say. They do not want the damned thing. They do not want Hanbury to become part of suburbia."

The Hanbury action committee held an emergency meeting last night to consider its next move.

Mr Patten's modifications to the county structure plan will be subject to a six-week objection period. Hereford and Worcester County Council said yesterday that Mr Patten was expected to publish final proposals later in the year. If plans for a satellite village were included, the developers would be free to apply for planning permission.

Crufts to introduce terrier races

By Ruth Gledhill

Crufts, keen to shed its image as a sedate beauty contest for dogs, is to introduce terrier racing into this year's show, the last to be held in London.

The organizers of the show predicted "a bit of a riot" during the races, which will take place in the main ring on the second day of the show in three weeks' time.

Terriers, in heats of four, will be released from traps at one end of the ring.

A furry object, resembling a rat or a ferret, will be used to

lure them to the other end where their handlers will hide in rhododendron bushes to catch them at the finish.

Miss Barbara Banfield, show manager, said: "They have these races at agricultural shows in the north of England."

"The terriers go so fast you normally have to stop them with a bale of straw."

"We thought this would be a bit difficult and have decided to use rhododendrons instead."

She said there will not be

any official gambling on the results.

"I do not know what will go on unofficially," she said. "We thought it would be fun to show that dogs don't just look beautiful, they can do things as well."

"As long as they don't bite members of the audience I am not bothered what happens."

Major General Martin Sinnatt, secretary of the Kennel Club, which organizes the show, said: "There will be terriers everywhere. Ringside

spectators could end up with terriers in their laps."

"It will be enormous fun."

The owner of the winning terrier will be presented with a silver salver.

Crufts moves to the National Exhibition Centre at Birmingham for its centenary show next year.

A total of 14,564 dogs have entered for this year's show, 550 more than last year.

The four-day show begins at Earl's Court, west London, on February 8.

Chelsea Flower Show

Organizers to trim crowd capacity

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

Crowd capacity at the Chelsea Flower Show in May is to be reduced to ensure that visitors enjoy a comfortable and enjoyable visit, the Royal Horticultural Society announced yesterday.

Capacity in the Royal Hospital grounds will be reduced to 190,000 over the show's four days and there will be no more than 20,000 visitors in the grounds at any time.

There will be two private view days for society members and tickets for the two public

days are being offered in advance. For the first time the society has appointed a ticket agency, Keith Prowse, to handle the sale of all public day tickets.

This year there will be more than 700 exhibitors at the show, and a new feature will be an advice centre for disabled and elderly gardeners. Children under five will not be admitted. There are facilities for handicapped people.

There is no booking fee for tickets bought from the agency

by postal application (to the Chelsea Flower Show ticket office, PO Box 1426, London, SW1) or for credit card bookings, (telephone 01-748 1414; all cards accepted).

The show's 24-hour information line (01-828 1744) is now in operation, and will continue for the duration of the show, giving ticket availability and admission details.

A charity gala preview of the show will be held on Monday, May 21, from 7 to 9pm. It will be sponsored by Enterprise

Oil and organized by Help the Aged and the society. Further details and tickets are available from Special Events Department, Help the Aged, St James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE (telephone 01-253 0253).

The private view, for members only, will be on Tuesday and Wednesday, 22 and 23 May, 8am-5pm. General admission is Thursday 24 May, 8am-5pm (£15 for the full day, £7 after 4pm), and Friday 25 May, 8am-5pm (£12).

Judge criticizes tardy barristers

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A judge criticized barristers yesterday for wasting public money by not turning up on time.

In the latest of a series of complaints from the bench about barristers who are late for court, Judge Savill, QC, said at York Crown Court: "Everyday for the last two weeks I've been sitting here and not started on time. More than 200 minutes has been lost which is at public expense."

Applications have been made every day to give barristers more time "because it appears no one seems to be bothered to have their cases prepared in time to start promptly", the judge said.

He told Mr Richard Ough: "I am sorry you are taking the flack for the others but this is not the conduct I like to see from members of the Bar."

There has been an increasing number of complaints by judges about the failure of barristers to attend court on time for hearings, or, "indeed, on occasion, to attend at all", according to Mr Richard Southwell, QC, writing in *Counsel* magazine.

Mr Southwell, chairman of the Bar's professional standards committee, says: "The committee is strongly of the opinion that there is no excuse, short of personal or

national disaster, for this kind of behaviour."

"Late-running trains, heavy traffic or the distance to be driven from home will not suffice."

"Even delays due to listing problems and over running cases in other courts can be minimized by counsel with careful planning and liaison with the listing room."

Mr Southwell also reports that his committee has been particularly worried by the number of complaints alleging failure to deal with papers within a reasonable time and also of the number regarding the late return of instructions as a result of "clashes of professional commitments", or double-booking.

The latter, he says, is of particular concern to the lay client who "objects to the appearance of a new barrister who, without his knowledge, turns up to represent him at the hearing."

"Both can cause nothing but harm to the public image of the Bar and, in the committee's view," he says. The problems over late return of briefs frequently arise from lack of liaison between barristers and their clerks, leading to more commitments being accepted than can realistically be met, Mr Southwell says.

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Hungarians want Soviet troops out by next year

From Michael Evans, Vienna

Hungary broke ranks with Moscow yesterday and called for the removal of all Soviet troops from its territory by 1991 at the latest and a ceiling on all foreign troops stationed in Europe of "well below" 275,000 on each side of the Warsaw Pact-Nato divide.

Hungary's proposals, put forward at the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna, coincided with a call yesterday from Poland for all Soviet troops to be withdrawn from its territory by the end of 1990 — the third eastern bloc country to make such a demand.

Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, put the demand to the Soviet ambassador in Gdansk. Mr Walesa told Mr Vladimir Brovnikov that the withdrawal of all 45,000 Soviet troops in Poland would be a condition of his country's building a new relationship with the Kremlin.

So far, as a gesture, the Soviet Union has begun removing some 10,000 soldiers, Mr Walesa was invited to visit Moscow for further talks and Solidarity sources say a meeting "is envisaged" with President Gorbachev.

Hungary's initiative, however, is significant because it represents the first time that a Warsaw Pact country has presented a new proposal on its own at the CFE talks without first getting approval from Moscow.

The accelerated timetable for the withdrawal from Hungary of the 50,000 to 60,000 Soviet troops was clearly a response to Czechoslovakia's similar demands on Moscow.

Prague has dealt with the matter on a bilateral basis, but Hungary's decision to include Soviet troops in its initiative was obviously aimed at causing the maximum impact at the talks.

Yesterday Mr Ferenc Somogyi, one of two state secretaries at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Budapest, who flew to Vienna to present the new proposals, said that his Government would like the Soviet troops to leave by the end of this year.

"It is our position that there are no reasons, be they of a political, military-security or arms control character, that would justify the stationing of foreign troops on the territory

of Hungary," he said. He confirmed that Moscow had not approved the new Hungarian initiative.

However, in talks which are expected to begin with Soviet officials next week, Budapest will offer December 1991 as the final deadline.

Hungary's second proposal for lower limits on stationed foreign forces would have significant implications for the three Nato countries in West Germany, the United States, Britain and France.

Nato has proposed that US and Soviet forces stationed in Europe be cut to 275,000 each. This would mean the withdrawal and demobilization of 325,000 Soviet and 30,000 American troops. The Warsaw Pact has proposed a ceiling of 300,000 to 350,000, but to include all stationed forces, not just those of the two superpowers.

The Hungarian plan embraces both proposals but calls for a figure well below 275,000.

The Hungarian proposal could be in line with the Bush Administration, some of whose officials believe that the 275,000 ceiling is too high and is out of step with the political developments that have transformed Eastern Europe in recent months.

The US has 305,000 troops in central Europe, mostly in West Germany. Britain has 69,700 Army and RAF personnel in West Germany, and France 52,700. Nato forces in Europe total 467,000.

Nato has refused to countenance the inclusion of any of the non-American forces in the proposed manpower ceiling, so it is likely that the Hungarian initiative will be rejected.

The Soviet Union, faced with demands to withdraw its troops from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and now Poland — a total of about 180,000 soldiers — must be wondering where it is going to be allowed to station its forces under a CFE agreement. East Germany would be the only country left.

So far, the Soviet Union has withdrawn 10,000 troops, 470 tanks and 200 guns from Hungary under President Gorbachev's unilateral proposal to cut Soviet forces in Eastern Europe by 50,000.

Romania reverses ban on Communist Party



Out of bounds: Soldiers turn back a man and his children taking a shortcut past the National Salvation Front headquarters in Bucharest. Security was stepped up yesterday as Romania's interim Government lifted its ban on the Communist Party.

Bucharest (Reuter) — The revolutionary leadership in Romania yesterday lifted the ban it announced last week on the Communist Party, following criticism that outlawing it was undemocratic.

In yet another policy switch, the ruling National Salvation Front cancelled a January 12 decree banning the party, which ran the country with a rod of iron for more than 40 years.

Mr Silviu Brucan, a key member of the Front's inner circle, said that a second decree calling for a referendum on the death penalty was also abrogated.

The result of yesterday's announcement was that two plebiscites scheduled for January 28 were called off. The Front had earlier agreed to let Romanians decide whether to ban the Communist Party or not.

Mr Brucan said that communism was a spent force in Romania after Nicolae Ceausescu's harsh 24-year regime. He said: "It is a fact that the party has excluded itself from the political life of the country."

Mr Brucan added: "There is no democratic country which should forbid by law the existence of the Communist Party."

He said that the only kind of party that would be banned in Romania would be a fascist one. The announcement ended 24 hours of speculation in Bucharest that the Front was preparing another of the policy changes which have coloured its brief history.

From Mr Brucan's remarks it seemed clear that free elections scheduled for April would be postponed.

Emerging political parties have called for more time to organize and the Front has said it is not opposed to a delay.

Since it took power after the overthrow and execution of Ceausescu last month, the new regime has been bedevilled by the issues of the death penalty and the Communist Party.

First it abolished capital punishment, after Ceausescu and Elena, his wife, went before a firing squad on Christmas Day.

But under pressure from an angry crowd wanting revenge against detained members of the Securitate, it agreed by decree to put the issue to a referendum.

Church resignation: Patriarch Teoctist, the head of the Romanian Orthodox Church, resigned yesterday, a senior church official said (Reuter reports).

Archimandrite Casian Craciun declined to say why the Patriarch had stepped down, but he had been criticized for supporting the Ceausescu regime.

Yugoslav feuding points to end of power monopoly

From Dusan Trevisan, Belgrade

Whatever compromise may be devised to save the fractured Yugoslav communist party, the Yugoslav League of Communists, the congress which opens tomorrow is expected to be riven by national factions representing policies so far apart they can hardly be reconciled. The party is facing the threat of disintegration.

Mr Stefan Korosec, the federal party's secretary — a Slovene often targeted for attack by the conservative faction mainly associated with Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian hardline leader, has spoken of the party's abandoning its monopoly in favour of a multi-party system.

But fears remain in Serbia that the end of the communist monopoly will lead to the growth of nationalist parties and hasten the fragmentation of Yugoslavia into a feuding collection of Balkan states. This remains the case although events in Romania have clearly prompted even the Serbian communists to accept pluralism and change some of their centralist postures.

The old argument that only a centralized communist party could hold Yugoslavia's disparate republics together was disproved long ago as the federal party has seen practically all its power move to the regional party leaderships.

The Slovene communists who stand for democratic reforms last week formally approved reconstructing the federal League of Communists effectively as a coalition of independent parties, as widely apart ideologically as social democrats are from Communists in Western Europe.

If this is not accepted, the Slovene communists could proceed as an independent organization in so way bound by federal leadership.

The Croatian communists, on the other hand, have instructed their delegates to the

congress to stand by demands that democratic centralism associated with the centralized, Stalinist type of communist party be abolished, which amounts to the death of the federal party as a political force.

Serbia alone stands firmly behind a centralized communist party structure in which no dissent note is tolerated but, finding itself increasingly isolated in recent weeks, its hitherto firm opposition to democratic reform in general and to a multi-party system in particular has been relaxed.

Ethnic tensions in Yugoslavia are on the boil with the six republics and the country's numerous ethnic groups conducting a proxy civil war through the media. Serbia has imposed an economic boycott on Slovene goods, while the Serbian politicians and their totally controlled media keep accusing Yugoslavia's northern republics of building an anti-Serbian alliance and aiming to break up the Yugoslav federal state.

In the prevalently Albanian-populated Kosovo autonomous region, where the Serbs are applying the old repressive methods against Albanian nationalism, a state of emergency imposed a year ago is still in force. At least 30 people died in demonstrations last year.

Once the most open communist country, Yugoslavia now finds itself at the tail-end of East European reforms. On the eve of the congress at which the party should relinquish its monopoly, Serbia is in open conflict with Slovenia, Croatia and Mr Ante Markovic, the federal Prime Minister, whose daring programme of liberal economic and political reform not only enjoys widespread support from other parts of the country but offers what many regard as the last chance for Yugoslavia.

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Cold shoulder from Latin America for mission by Quayle

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

President Bush's plan to send Mr Dan Quayle, his Vice-President, on a fence-mending tour of Latin America to explain the United States invasion of Panama has met with a sharp rebuff.

Some of the most important nations in the region have said that they do not want to see Mr Quayle at this time.

The President announced the plan at a press conference on January 5, saying that he had asked Mr Quayle to visit "a number of countries within the next several weeks" on a mission of "enormous importance". Mr Bush admitted that the invasion on December 20 had damaged Washington's relations with Latin American countries.

He said Mr Quayle was "to personally deliver" a message from him that the US wanted to be "a friendly, supportive and respectful neighbour" and was not reverting to "a willful use of force... that has no rationale".

Now, instead of country-hopping, Mr Quayle's itinerary is restricted to three presidential inaugurations between now and mid-March - which he was scheduled to attend in any case - besides visits to Panama and to Jamaica.

Mexico and Venezuela, both outspoken critics of the invasion of Panama, are among nations which are known to have told the White House that Mr Quayle's visit would be distinctly unhelpful to their governments and could lead to anti-American demonstrations.

A visit to Costa Rica has been ruled out because it has elections on February 5, but other key nations, such as Peru, Bolivia and El Salvador, are also off the list.

One senior Administration official who was quoted in *The Washington Post* yesterday admitted there had been a White House "miscalculation" in believing that Latin America would appreciate high-level US attention.

Much more time appears to be needed before Latin American hostility to the use of US military force in the region settles down.

Mr Quayle himself acknowledged that there were "diplomatic sensitivities" surrounding the proposed timing of his visit, but asserted: "No country has said, 'We don't want the Vice-President, period.'"

This is the second example of the Administration's badly misjudging the mood in Latin America since the invasion. A few days ago, it admitted shelving plans to deploy a

naval task force off the Colombian coast to prevent drugs being shipped to the United States by air or sea.

Advance leaks of the plan, which was to have been unveiled formally by the Pentagon this week, used the term "blockade", which enraged Colombians, whose sensitivities had already been heightened by the use of US military muscle in Panama, which shares a border with Colombia.

Mr Quayle will now make two trips to Latin America. He will attend the inauguration of Señor Rafael Calleja, the President-elect, in Honduras on January 27, before travelling on to Panama and Jamaica. He will also attend presidential inaugurations in Brazil and Chile on March 11 and 15 respectively.

STRAZBOURG: The European Parliament yesterday condemned the US invasion and called for the immediate withdrawal from Panama of US "occupying troops" (AP reports).

The 518-member assembly said that the military intervention had been a "flagrant violation of the sovereignty and integrity of an independent state" even if the nation had no "freely elected government".

Monument to dustmen's strike



The Acropolis, shrouded in a brown smog, is surrounded by uncollected rubbish as a dustmen's strike enters its ninth day in Athens. Fears are growing that the rotting piles of rubbish and the pollution could pose a health hazard in the Greek capital.

Far-right Japanese shoots mayor

From Joe Joseph Tokyo

Mr Hitoshi Motoshima, the Mayor of Nagasaki, was yesterday shot through the chest by a right-wing extremist.

Mr Motoshima, who had broken a Japanese taboo by suggesting that the late Emperor Hirohito, venerated by nationalists as a god, bore some responsibility for the Second World War, was shot by Mr Kazumi Tajiri, a prominent right-wing activist who later confessed.

Mr Motoshima, shot from behind as he emerged from Nagasaki City Hall, was taken for surgery at a nearby hospital. His condition was serious, but his life was said not to be in danger.

The Roman Catholic mayor made his controversial remark in December 1988, when Hirohito's failing health had reopened a worldwide debate about his war conduct.

The remark drew a battalion of angry right-wingers in army lorries to Nagasaki.

They patrolled the streets, flying the Rising Sun flag, blasting military music through loudspeakers, and menacing the mayor with death threats and gunshots at his office windows.

Because of the death threats and the arrival of live bullets in his mail, Mr Motoshima had been under 24-hour guard by police. But, tiring of the security, Mr Motoshima had asked for the police guard to be called off last month.

Harassment of the mayor had stirred public debate in Japan about Hirohito's past. His shooting has sparked another one about the tolerance of free speech in a conservative and traditional society, in which notions of racial purity and superiority are never far from the surface.

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the former Prime Minister, sang the praises of the "monarchical state", and history textbooks gloss over Japanese war atrocities. The "unique" inhumanities of the Japanese have been cited as a reason they cannot eat imported beef, while the "uniqueness" of Japanese snow has been put forward as a rationale not to buy skis made in Europe.

Japanese nationalists yearn for the glorious days when the Emperor ruled as well as reigned over a continental empire.

TV drugs drama sparks Mexico-US war of words

From James Bone, New York

A television fictionalization of the murder of an American drug agent has caused a "mini-series war" between Mexico and the US.

The NBC television network's three-part series, *Drug Wars: The Camarena Story*, dramatizes the life and death of Mr Enrique Camarena Salazar, a US Drug Enforcement Administration agent who was kidnapped by Mexican police in 1985 and found dead a month later.

The series, which was filmed with the co-operation of the DEA and shown on national television last week, was accompanied by news coverage in which US officials cast doubt on Mexico's commitment to the war on drugs. The Mexican Government has reacted furiously to the suggestion of widespread corruption and complicity in drug trafficking by Mexican officials.

The state-owned television network Imevision accused Mr Camarena, who is glorified in the NBC series, of being "one more drug trafficker" who infiltrated the American

anti-drug agency, betrayed his partner and for that reason was murdered.

Notimex, the state-owned news agency, reported that Mexico planned to reopen the Camarena case and begin a new investigation of the dead agent's alleged links with two cocaine barons now in Mexican jails.

On Tuesday a Mexican private sector group placed a provocative full-page advertisement in *The New York Times*, proclaiming that Mexico says "No to drugs" and asking "And meanwhile, what have you done in the USA?"

Although neither government wants the dispute to escalate, there have already been calls in Mexico for the expulsion of the 40 or so DEA agents now in the country.

Despite the controversy, Washington is standing by Mr Camarena, whom Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, described this week as "an outstanding DEA agent who performed valiantly... President Bush has said Camarena was a hero and we still believe it".

South Africa reviews ANC ban

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

The South African Government is reviewing its banning order on the African National Congress (ANC) and the South African Communist Party. It has also invited another prominent anti-apartheid organization to apply for the removal of restrictions against it.

Congressional statements by senior cabinet ministers yesterday came after an announcement by the United Democratic Front, the principal surrogate of the ANC, that it would no longer submit to restrictions imposed on it two years ago.

Mr Murphy Morobe, a Front spokesman, said it intended reopening offices throughout the country and would intensify its defiance campaign launched last year.

Mr Adrian Vlok, the Min-

ister of Law and Order, said in a statement that if the Front believed its activities were no longer a threat to the public, the maintenance of law and order, or the ending of the state of emergency, it was free to apply to him to have the restrictions lifted.

He said, however, that if the Front violated the restrictions without permission, it would contravene the emergency regulations and any such action would be investigated by the Attorney-General.

Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Justice Minister, said the Government was reviewing restrictions on all banned organizations. Asked whether the ANC and the communists were included, he reiterated that it was a "comprehensive review" of all organizations.

However Mr Mohammed

Valli, assistant secretary-general of the Front, said his organization had no intention of applying for the restrictions to be lifted. "Our decision to operate is not dependent on Mr Vlok's consent. We have reached a point now where we are convinced the Government has no choice but to allow organizations like the UDF to operate openly."

A sign of the times is that the media is flowing laws that prohibit the quoting of banned people. The Afrikaans-language daily *Beeld* published a front-page report this week quoting Mr Joe Slovo, the communist leader.

The Front, formed in 1983, is the most important anti-apartheid alliance operating openly in South Africa. As a coalition of several hundred political, trade union and hu-

man rights groups, it claims more than two million members and orchestrates campaigns in consultation with the ANC leadership in Lusaka.

The abolition of bans and restrictions on anti-apartheid groups is one of the measures insisted upon by the ANC as a precondition for negotiations.

Dr Denis Worrall, co-leader of the liberal Democratic Party, yesterday called on President de Klerk to accede to the demands when he opened Parliament in Cape Town on February 2. "Failure to announce these steps will have profound negative consequences for South Africa. We have to grab the imagination, the wonder and respect of the international community very quickly, and that means that Mr de Klerk cannot drop the ball on February 2."

WORLD ROUNDUP

Aoun tightens gag on Beirut press

West Beirut - General Michel Aoun, the Lebanese Christian leader, is intensifying his campaign to force the Beirut press to endorse his military cabinet as the only legitimate government (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes).

Yesterday, soldiers prevented the distribution of the French-language *L'Orient-Le Jour* for not complying with his directive on Tuesday banning any reference to President Hrawi as the head of state. *Al-Nahar* in west Beirut has stopped publication and *ad-Diyar*, the leading daily in east Beirut, has challenged the ban, incurring a week's suspension and a possible jail sentence for its editor of up to five years. Three radio stations are on strike.

Poor-snow payments

Geneva - With the persistent anticyclone set to continue over the Alps, the Swiss Government has decided to indemnify winter sports employees losing earnings because of a lack of snow for the third winter in a row (Alan McGregor writes). Compensation is to be paid from unemployment insurance funds. The arrangement will be made permanent in a Bill being put before Parliament which will provide payments to cover losses due to "accidents of weather". Ski instructors, ski-lift attendants and hotel and restaurant employees will be the main beneficiaries. Only those who have ceased all gainful employment will qualify.

Bush aide in Manila

Washington - President Bush has sent a top aide on a sudden mission to the Philippines to underscore US support for President Aquino (Martin Fletcher writes). The move follows reports that another coup attempt may soon be mounted against Mrs Aquino. In December she survived the sixth and most serious coup attempt after Mr Bush authorized the use of American warplanes to give her forces air cover. The trip to Manila of Mr Robert Gates, the Deputy National Security adviser, was not announced until after he had left on Wednesday. Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, said he was going to make it clear the US would back Mrs Aquino in the face of "continuing reports of problems in terms of security forces".

Oil menaces Madeira

Funchal (Reuter) - Portugal appealed to the European Community yesterday to help it prevent an ecological disaster on the Madeira islands, threatened by a 13-mile oil slick. The Navy asked for tanks and booms from the EC's anti-pollution department to contain the spill, which has already polluted beaches and killed wildlife, officials said.

The regional government fears the slick could ruin the tourism trade on the main islands, Madeira and Porto Santo, and devastate a sanctuary for rare seals and birds. Stretches of Porto Santo's golden sands have been blackened by oily sludge and the slick has also washed ashore on the rocky northern coast of Madeira, one of Europe's favourite winter holiday spots.

Italy tackles smog

Rome - In an attempt to reduce air pollution, Signor Carmelo Conte, the Italian Minister for Urban Areas, yesterday called on mayors to close their city centres to traffic (Paul Bompard writes). He also asked that an existing law on the construction of parking space be respected. In Milan, where lack of wind and rain has kept a vast cloud of smog hovering over the city for two weeks, the mayor has signed an order forbidding the use of private cars on Sunday. The only precedent is a Sunday driving ban imposed in the early 1970s to reduce oil imports.

China releases 573 pro-democracy protesters



Professor Fang Lizhi: May be allowed to leave embassy.

Peking (Reuter) - China said yesterday it had released from prison 573 protesters arrested for taking part in the pro-democracy unrest crushed by the Army last June.

The Ministry of Public Security said the prisoners were freed because they had pleaded guilty and repented. It called on unrepentant offenders to do likewise.

"Our policy is to educate anyone who can be educated and temper punishment with leniency," a spokesman for the ministry was quoted as saying by the official New China News Agency.

It is the first time China has reported the release of prisoners detained for anti-government activities last year.

The announcement was calculated to improve China's

image overseas and to attract badly needed foreign bank credits, diplomats said.

There was no way of verifying the report, which did not mention names, say when the prisoners were released or describe their offences.

A police spokesman said he had not heard of the move and declined to specify how many dissidents remain in custody.

Security forces rounded up thousands of dissidents and "hooligans" in nationwide manhunt after troops, supported by heavy armour, shot their way into Peking last June to crush the student-led demonstrations for democracy.

China has termed the unrest a "counter-revolutionary rebellion". Few trials have been shown publicly and no official sentencing figures have been

published. More than 800 Chinese have been sentenced to prison for pro-democracy activities, many for as long as 10 years. *The Washington Post* quoted Chinese sources as saying this week.

Western nations protested against China's crackdown by imposing limited sanctions, including a halt to new government credits. Most have now lifted some of those punitive measures and a further easing is expected.

Martial law was lifted in Peking last week after nearly eight months. Western nations, led by the United States, hailed the move as a step in the right direction.

A Western diplomat said of the prisoner releases reported yesterday: "This announcement looks like it's for foreign

consumption. It helps China's human rights image, which is especially important in the United States."

Asian diplomats in Tokyo said on Wednesday that a solution to the main stumbling-block in Sino-US relations was under discussion.

Professor Fang Lizhi, the wanted dissident still sheltering with his wife inside the US Embassy in Peking, might be allowed to leave for a third country if he admitted that he had made errors.

The World Bank would resume lending as part of the package, the diplomats said.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman declined comment yesterday, a shift from previous denials of a deal. He did not repeat previous Chinese ultimatums that Professor

Fang, an astrophysicist, confess and mend his ways.

Several dissidents have been released in recent weeks. Wang Yan, a political scientist who worked with the exiled dissident Yan Jiaqi, was freed late last month. Gao Xin, one of four hunger strikers in Tiananmen Square on June 4 last year, was also freed from prison last month.

HONG KONG: A rush began here to sell off the world's biggest ivory stockpile after winning a six-month reprieve from a worldwide export ban yesterday (Reuter reports).

The reprieve, negotiated by Britain on behalf of its colony, prohibits imports but allows the disposal of existing stocks under a strict licensing system. Leading article, page 13

Repatriation crisis

Hong Kong introduces fast-track refugee screening

From Jonathan Brande, Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Government has introduced faster screening procedures for Vietnamese boat people arriving in the territory, in a renewed attempt to discourage others from risking the dangerous journey from Vietnam.

Newcomers are being interviewed almost immediately at a special reception centre, while those already languishing in crowded detention camps here will still have to wait months for the chance to prove that they are genuine political refugees.

Mr Geoffrey Barnes, the

colony's Secretary for Security, said that the fast-track screening programme was an attempt to strengthen and speed up the message that those arriving in Hong Kong would be deported if they were "screened out" as economic migrants.

The Government is also claiming that the sooner non-refugees can be sent home, the easier it will be to reintegrate them into Vietnamese society.

However, there is no plan at this stage to put those who are screened out under the fast-track policy at the head of the

queue for repatriation to Vietnam.

Mr Barnes stressed that they had the same right as other boat people to appeal within 28 days if determined as non-refugees.

Amnesty International has expressed concern over the two-track screening policy for the boat people, stating that the six lawyers employed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to monitor the process are already overstretched.

The office of the High Commissioner fears that the

priority given to new arrivals will slow down the screening of the huge backlog in the camps.

Mr Barnes said the new policy had been in place since the new year.

But, during the visit earlier this week of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, British officials hinted at the idea as if it were still on the drawing-board.

Officials were unable to comment yesterday on the timing of the Secretary for Security's announcement.

Observers point out that the

policy might originally have been intended for presentation this week at a meeting of the Steering Committee on Indo-Chinese Refugees in Geneva.

That meeting, now postponed until next Tuesday at the request of the United States, will try to reach international agreement on Britain's controversial policy of forced repatriation for non-refugees.

One hundred and forty-four Vietnamese boat people have arrived in Hong Kong since January 1. They will have

priority over the 34,000 boat-people who sailed into the territory last year.

There have been no further mandatory repatriations since the much-criticized deportation of 51 Vietnamese last month, although Britain insists the policy has not been put on ice.

However, more than 1,000 people have returned to Vietnam under the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-sponsored voluntary repatriation scheme, and another 1,200 people are expected to follow them.

Britain fails in attempt to increase EC power base

From Peter Gullford Strasbourg

Britain yesterday failed to sway the European Commission into increasing the number of prime posts it will hold in Brussels in the countdown to 1992 and the single market.

After intense horse-trading, it appears that Sir Leon Brittan, the British Commissioner, has been unsuccessful in his move to end what Brittan perceives as its inadequate representation in the EC hierarchy.

Britain has gained a bad reputation in Brussels for seeking to alter draft laws late in the day, but it has

been argued that its under-representation has been a prime reason.

Sir Leon recently blocked the new appointments as a lever to attempt to have the job of director-general in charge of industry and the 1992 single market - one of the most strategic posts in Brussels - given to a Briton.

However, Signor Riccardo Perrich, an Italian, has been chosen for the job. One of his deputies will be British.

The Commission cites the need to appoint internally as its chief reason

for the latest appointments, while promising to respect "the personal wishes of the Commissioners" and an accurate balance between the member states.

France and Italy have landed some prime positions in the past through tough lobbying, but Whitehall has considered this approach ungentlemanly. The latest appointments may encourage Britain to change its tactics.

However, although losing the strategic single market portfolio, Britain has won the prime post of directing customs union and indirect

taxation, which will become more important as Community borders are lowered and taxes approximated in the run-up to 1992.

This post may be filled by Mr John Mogg, who was seconded to the Department of Trade and Industry from the Cabinet Office.

In return for the customs and taxation portfolio, Britain loses its position of controlling the EC's task force for promoting small and medium-sized businesses. A West German delegate will replace Mr Alan Mayhew.

Britain will have three director-

generals (one for personnel), in addition to Mr David Williamson, currently the secretary-general and titular head of the Commission bureaucracy.

French will head agriculture, the budget and technology, while West Germans will be in charge of external relations, Third World development, small businesses and the powerful competition portfolio, which goes to Herr Claus-Dieter Ehlermann.

His position as Commission spokesman is also expected to go to a West German.

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January 18 1990

PARLIAMENT

Tories interrupt as Patten gives poll tax details

To a barrage of interruptions from his own backbenchers, Mr Christopher Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, set out his proposals for central government support for local authorities under the community charge.

He said that for the past 10 to 15 years there had been arguments about how to control local government spending and how to raise money efficiently and fairly.

In recent years local government spending had been increasing more quickly than that of central government spending. The community charge would lead to greater clarity and accountability.

The Government would have no hesitation in charging rates which set over-high charges.

Mr Patten, moving approval of five reports on local government spending and central government support, said that they formed the basis for the local government grants settlement for next year.

"Whatever ones views about the new system of financing local government, I think there is very little doubt that there will be more clarity about local government spending in the future than there has been in the past."

"Second, I believe that there will be more accountability about local government spending... I think one of the reasons for some of the opposition that we have experienced in the last few weeks is precisely because of that greater clarity and greater accountability."

Mr James Pausley (Rugby and Kenilworth, C), intervening, said that standard spending assessments (SSAs) worked to the marked disadvantage of shire counties and this would be reflected in the community charge.

"The way in which SSAs are being calculated is fundamentally incorrect and fundamentally flawed."

Mr Alan Glyn (Windsor and Maidenhead, C) asked for further government concessions on SSAs and safety nets. His constituents faced a community charge of £500.

Mr Patten said that Wind-

son's SSA had been increased though not as much as the council would have liked. A community charge figure of such a size would suggest an increase in council spending of 20 per cent.

No one doubted that local authorities undertook vital functions, often very well. But whatever accolades were showered on them, it was unreasonable to argue that there should be one rule for the control of local government spending and another for central government spending.

Most of the row for the past 10 to 15 years had been on a simple point. Local authorities said that central government was not providing enough money and that they intended to spend more, regardless of the burden on taxpayers and ratepayers. Central government then said that it must constrain local government spending.

Whatever the rows in the Commons, the position was the same every year - the real level of local authority spending increased by 9.4 per cent. So even if it were argued that central government had attempted to squeeze local government until the pips squeaked, what had happened was that local government spending had taken a larger proportion of total public expenditure year after year.

In the past five years, central government expenditure had increased by 2.4 per cent. That of local government had increased by 9.4 per cent. So even if it were argued that central government had attempted to squeeze local government until the pips squeaked, what had happened was that local government spending had taken a larger proportion of total public expenditure year after year.

Local authorities said that the reason for high community charges would not be their spending decisions but something inherent in the community charge itself or the switchover from grant related expenditure to SSAs.

"Many of the sort of figures for spending increases being suggested by local authorities for next year would have meant the most astronomical increases in some rates if we were not going over it. It is levels of spending which determine the level of the community charge."

The Government was allowing for £32.8 billion on local authority expenditure next year. That represented an increase of 11 per cent over what it had been prepared to provide this year.

Was that figure unfair because of some meanness this year?

It was difficult to argue that because this year's figure was 9.9 per cent higher than last year's, and last year's figure was 7.3 per cent more than the figure for the year before. However, all local authorities had said that on average they intended to budget over that 9.1 per cent increase by 7 per cent. That represented £1.9 billion extra.

"The basis of the local authorities' case is that whatever the level of overspending, whatever the overrun on spending in one year, this should be taken as the base line for increases in spending the next year. The logic of that argument is that local authority expenditure would never be within control, that local authority expenditure would increase year after year as a proportion of public expenditure."

There was power in legislation to charge-cap, just as there had previously been power to rate-cap. Many argued that it would be wrong to charge-cap because they thought it wrong to interrupt the transition mechanism between what a local authority spent and the purse or wallet of the community charge payer.

"I understand that argument particularly well, but if some of the horrendously high figures for community charge which we have heard being bandied about are actually set next year, we will have absolutely no hesitation in capping the authorities concerned" (Conservative cheers).

Many of the MPs had said that the Government should go further and meet the costs of the safety net in the first year as well, at a cost of £650 million.

"I want to face that issue absolutely squarely with Conservative MPs. I do not believe that this is a matter to which one can bring much in the way of scientific judgement. It is entirely a matter of political judgement and of one's views of priorities."

Looking at other ways of spending money, he could not press the case for spending an extra £650 million on parts of the country which were benefiting from the changes.

He wanted finally to come to the question of the consequences of the move from GREAs (grant-related expenditure assessments) to SSAs.



Mr Patrick Nicholson, Under Secretary of State, Department of Employment, at the Critterion project in central London yesterday, where he launched the regulations that will make the wearing of safety helmets compulsory on building sites from the end of March.

"The SSA methodology is not cast in stone (loud Conservative cries of 'Hear, hear' and 'more'). If MPs or the local authorities in their constituencies wish to come to us with fresh evidence for new methodology for SSAs, we are quite prepared to look at changes..."

Mr Ian Bryce (South Dorset, C) asked him to explain why Dorset would be losing £5 million grant after his constituents had been assured that this would be a fairer system and that they would be getting a greater amount of grant.

Mr Patten said that, overall in Dorset, there was an increase of 7 per cent in SSA over GREAs and a 11 per cent increase in total aggregate external finance

going in next year over this. "But I am quite prepared to look at new evidence brought by him and other MPs based on the SSA."

Mr Ralph Howell (North Norfolk, C) said the scheme was flawed from the start and nothing could repair it. It should be scrapped.

Mr Brian Gould, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that the debate would give an opportunity for those who might have previously endorsed the Government's proposals to make a new judgement on their practical consequences.

MPs were under an obligation to reach a new judgement now on the basis of the facts presented to them in these reports.

Mr Patten's speech had revealed a lack of warmth for his own proposals.

He had made a number of attempts to change them, introducing safety nets and transitional relief. "But we now must accept that the Secretary of State (Mr Patten) has reached the end of the road." He could do nothing more. "He is unwilling to find any more money (Mr Patten nodded)."

"There is nothing this House can do save by voting tonight to force the Treasury's hand. We can still come to the aid of Mr Patten, who has clearly lost the debate in Cabinet, by voting against these reports."

Ministers guilty of deceit, says Kinnock

PRIME MINISTER

The Government was guilty of incompetence and deceit over the poll tax, Mr Neil Kinnock said during noisy exchanges at question time. He called the tax absurd and dishonest.

Mr Thatcher countered his and other Opposition criticism by saying that the community charge would prove to be much fairer than the rating system.

There was loud laughter on the Opposition benches when she referred to the charge as the poll tax, and Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Cromarty and Skye, Lib Dem) warmly congratulated her on using the "correct term".

Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, opening the exchanges, said that the poll-tax bills that people got would be much bigger than those promised by the Government. This gap between promise and reality showed that the Government was guilty of both incompetence and deception.

Mrs Thatcher: No. The Government set the level of reasonable spending for the coming year at 11 per cent over reasonable spending for this year. If local authorities spend over that, the community charge will go up. If there were high community charges, it would be well to look for the fault to Labour local authorities.

Mr Kinnock: She is trying to deceive yet again.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) asked him to rephrase his remark.

Mr Kinnock: The Prime Minister just cannot stop herself trying to misrepresent the situation. Did she not yet understand that local authorities all over the country, Conservative as well as Labour, were telling her repeatedly, as were some Tory MPs, that the poll-tax system was both absurd and dishonest.

Mrs Thatcher said that the new poll-tax system - (Labour laughter and interruptions) - the community charge would be much fairer and make local councils accountable to the electorate. It was a demonstration of the Government's care for the taxpayer.

It was Labour authorities that were extravagant, and that was why Mr Kinnock was opposed to the community charge.

Mr Kinnock said that, even if that were partly true, would the Prime Minister say why she thought that so many Conservative MPs would have such difficulty in supporting her in the vote on the new system tonight?

Mrs Thatcher replied that perhaps they should reserve

their firepower for extravagant Labour local authorities.

Mr Kennedy spoke of the sense of irony, long experienced by MPs from Scotland on his side of the House, that only three of those Conservatives likely to withhold support or to vote against her tonight had bothered to vote against precisely the same legislation when it was pushed through with regard to Scotland.

Scottish ministers had been warning colleagues of the so-called dire consequences of poll tax because it highlighted the unjust and fraudulent nature of the tax and the failed nature of the policies of her ramp of a party in Scotland.

Mrs Thatcher said that the community charge was by far the fairest way of paying for the very small proportion of local government expenditure. The taxpayer paid by far the greater part and business paid the next greatest part. All the relief and rebates and the transitional relief were paid for by the taxpayer.

"I wonder why those who criticize the community charge have no alternative to offer."

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) said that in Scotland there were serious arrears with poll-tax payments and at least 500,000 had made no payment at all. Even the *Financial Times* was today describing it as a fiscal monstrosity, and 40 or more Conservative MPs were set to rebel tonight. It was unjust, unworkable and unwanted by the vast majority of people.

Mrs Thatcher: It is much fairer poll-tax system, rating revaluation. Revaluation after seven years had caused enormous problems in Scotland and in England it would have been after 17 years... Once it was properly working, people would know that it was much better and fairer than the tax it replaced.

Mr Gary Walker (Keighley, C) said that companies providing employment in the North and Midlands welcomed the unified business rate, which would protect these from high-spending Labour authorities, and the only complaint was that the phasing-in period would prevent their getting the full benefit for some time.

Mrs Thatcher said that the new business rate would help to keep costs down and ensure that businesses were not the prey of extravagant local authorities.

High pay awards 'will kill jobs'

A warning against excessive pay awards unmatched by productivity was sounded by Mr Richard Ryder, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, at question time.

He was responding to Mr Andrew MacKay (East Berkshire, C), who said that, before Christmas, shop stewards at Ford had very sensibly told their members that excessive wage claims would lead to job losses and loss of business.

"Is he, like me, disappointed at the wage offer that has been made by the Ford management and so irresponsibly rejected by the trade unions?"

Mr Ryder expressed disappointment that the unions at Ford had not accepted the offer because excessive pay awards ultimately caused unemployment unless they were matched by increases in productivity.

Earlier, he said that the underlying rate of inflation, excluding interest payments (Labour protests), was 5.1 per cent.

Mr Ken Livingstone (Brent East, Lab) said that the biggest impact on inflation would be made if the deficit on long-term capital flow out of Britain was tackled.

It was the basic reason why the Government needed to keep short-term interest rates so high

TREASURY

to attract short-term capital to balance the budget.

Did anyone really value the freedom to carry on paying vast mortgage rates simply to allow British capital to flow abroad at the rate of a £30 billion deficit?

Mr Ryder: Industry has far more to fear from inflation and high pay awards than from interest rates.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, asked if the Government stood by the Chancellor's prediction that inflation would be at an annual rate of 5.75 per cent by the fourth quarter of this year?

If the Government deliberately increased the cost of living, by forcing up mortgage rates, electricity, water, and transport prices, and by introducing the poll tax, it was guilty of "inflationary own goals", as described by the CBI.

When would the Government admit that it was responsible for the underlying rate of inflation? Mr Ryder said that the answer to his first question was yes, and to the second question: industry had far more to fear from inflation and high pay awards than from high interest rates.

Guarded welcome for 'family' speech

The Prime Minister's proposal in a speech yesterday that absent fathers should be forced to contribute to the maintenance of their children was given a guarded welcome by a Labour MP.

Dr John Reid (Motherwell North, Lab) asked who would benefit. Would it be the children, or would the Exchequer benefit instead?

Mrs Thatcher said that the mother and children would benefit. The scheme was being worked out now and would be brought forward "in due course".

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Littleborough and Saddleworth, C) said that young couples had always had a job rearing and educating children. Could it be right,

just and fair for those couples that their taxes were used to pay for other people's children because fathers walked away from their financial responsibilities?

Conservative MPs and most of the public very much welcomed her statement the previous night.

Mrs Thatcher: We believe that all people have a responsibility for maintenance of their children and should not be allowed to escape it. The Government would make arrangements for collecting maintenance more effective.

Later, at business questions, Dr John Cunningham, shadow Leader of the House, welcomed the Prime Minister's "belated" recognition that lone parents

families, after a decade of her administration, faced serious financial difficulties.

He said that the plight of lone parent families had been made much worse by the freezing of child benefit, the "undermining" of the availability of housing benefit and the forcing up of mortgage rates.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House, said that the Government's policies were designed to raise the total economic prosperity of the country and to ensure that the resources generated went increasingly to those whose needs were greatest.

● CENTRAL BANK: The Prime Minister again made clear her opposition to the creation of a single European central bank.

Sir Peter Tapsell (Lincoln East, C) had said that if the Governor of the Bundesbank was being serious and not merely seeking to tease his own Finance Minister this week when he called for the establishment of a European central bank, totally free from all political controls, would the Prime Minister reiterate the fact that this would be overwhelmingly rejected by people of all political persuasions in this country?

Mrs Thatcher agreed. She added that the House agreed, too, judging by the recent debate.

Howe refuses statement on Scottish judge

Calls for a government statement about the resignation of Lord Dervaid as a High Court judge in Scotland after allegations of homosexual behaviour were firmly rejected by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House.

Responding to MPs at business questions, he said that the conduct of Scottish judges was entirely a matter for the Lord President of the Court of Session.

Mr Jim Sillars (Glasgow,

Govan, SNP) said that important points of principle concerning civil liberties and the matter of the legal process in Scotland had been raised.

"The issue of civil liberties is whether or not a person who is practising homosexual within the law should be protected in his office of employment."

"If that was not the case with Lord Dervaid, then we are entitled to a statement on his reasons for resigning."

Advocate had dragged Lord Hope, Lord President of the Court of Session, from a judgemental to an inquisitorial position which should have been applied by the Lord Advocate, the Crown Office, the Procurator Fiscal.

"Matters of this kind, of important principle, will have to be raised and answered. It is far better that the Government come clean now than for people to believe there is a cover-up."

Sir Geoffrey said that MPs in

most parts of the House would have contempt for the way Mr Sillars had raised the question. The conduct of Scottish judges was not a matter for the Government.

Lord Dervaid had resigned for personal reasons.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) said that, if a government statement was not forthcoming, the public would rightly suspect that this was yet another establishment cover-up.

The good sense not to share the kind of motivation that Mr Canavan put forward. The whole House will welcome the fact that this would be overwhelmingly rejected by people of all political persuasions in this country.

Mrs Thatcher agreed. She added that the House agreed, too, judging by the recent debate.

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Cash for safety study

The Department of Transport is providing half the money for research commissioned by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust into actual and perceived risks to personal security of passengers travelling in London minibuses compared with travel in licensed taxis.

Mr Michael Portillo, Minister for Public Transport, said in a written reply. The research would also consider whether licensing of minibuses, as practised outside London, altered the position.

He said that there would be a ceiling of £20,500 on the Government's contribution and the Police Foundation were jointly seeking additional funds from the private sector to meet the other part of the funding.

Shipping hope

There are encouraging signs that the worst of the decline in world shipping in recent years is over, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Minister for Shipping, said.

Gallows kept

A gallows is kept at Wandsworth Prison, Mr David Meller, Minister of State, Home Office, said.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be: Monday: Social Security Bill, second reading. Tuesday: Debate on the Chancellor's Autumn Statement.

Wednesday: Debates on Government motions on government schools policies and on the needs of the disabled.

Thursday: Motions on Scottish housing support grant Orders. Private Bills. Friday: Private member's Bill: Consumer Guarantees Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be: Monday: Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Bill, committee.

Tuesday: Courts and Legal Services Bill, committee, second day.

Wednesday: Debates on London's traffic problems and on the situation in Hong Kong.

Thursday: Courts and Legal Services Bill, committee, third day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on a Conservative MP's motion on Opposition policies.

Inquiry into security at bases

The Commons defence committee has launched an investigation into the Government's policy of hiring commercial security firms to guard military bases (Sheila Gunn writes).

It comes after controversy after the bombing of the Royal Marines school near Deal, Kent, last September when it emerged that responsibility for external security had been handed over 18 months before to a private firm. The IRA bomb killed 11 people and injured 22.

The Government rejected calls for an urgent security review because, it said, a review of all its sites, including the Royal Marines school, was already under way.

The Tory-dominated committee, chaired by Mr Michael Bates, said yesterday that the investigation will focus initially on the security implications of using commercial security firms. It will call Ministry of Defence officials, members of the Defence Police Federation and the British Security Industry Association. It is also expected to visit military establishments, including Deal.

The committee has previously investigated security at nuclear bases and the former Royal Ordnance factories.

MP derides 'ineffective' chatline practice code



Mr Forth: Code of practice will help to reduce abuse.

The Government expects a new code of conduct to bring a big cut in the abuse of telephone chatlines, Mr Eric Forth, Under Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs, said in a Commons adjournment debate on Wednesday night.

MPs from both sides of the House had complained about the use of chatlines for sex purposes and one said that Alexander Bell would turn in his grave if he knew that his invention was being used for such perverted purposes.

People were using their employers' telephones, and young people their parents' and running up four-figure bills.

Opening the debate, Mr Terence Lewis (Worsley, Lab) said that telephone message services should not be

available to subscribers unless they specifically asked to have them.

Moving to a contracting-in system would kill the chatline and sexline services stone dead because callers would not want to spend their own money on the services.

The proposed code of practice to control the industry would change nothing. It proposed monitoring of multi-line chatline services, age control to ban those under a certain age and a compensation scheme for those handed with high bills. If a compensation scheme could overcome the problem of families driven into debt by high bills, he would be the first to say that it should be given a try, but the scheme was ludicrous.

Experience showed that monitoring was extremely difficult. It was almost

impossible to tell the age of girls on the telephone. Any service which could survive only with a compensation scheme was not worth much.

He was particularly concerned by one-to-one lines which involved a girl talking to one man about sex. This corrupted the woman.

"I believe there is a correlation between the institution of these lines over the past four years and the crime being perpetrated against women in the streets." Women who worked on these lines felt corrupted and dirty. Some had said that they felt like verbal prostitutes.

Sir Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury, C) said that the advertisements pandered to the lowest of human desires. As a shareholder of British Telecom, he derived no pleasure from

private treatment by non-insured patients was practicable. But there were practical dangers that made it a not very attractive alternative. Might he suggest politely that what was in some danger of becoming a vendetta between Lord Bruce-Gardyne and Bupa might now come to a peaceful end?

The Earl of Cathness, Paymaster General, said that since 1980 the number of people covered by private medical insurance had increased by half to about 5.5 million people,

representing approximately a tenth of the population.

The percentage of people aged over 65 was only 5 per cent. When people retired, they often found it difficult to continue their insurance cover because, as their premiums tended to rise, their incomes fell.

It was to overcome the problem of enabling people to maintain their insurance cover in retirement that the Government had introduced tax relief for such cover.

The motion was withdrawn.

Private health care morally inferior, bishop tells peers

The following report of a Lords debate on private health care appeared in later editions yesterday.

The principles of private health care were morally inferior to those of the National Health Service, the Bishop of Manchester, the Right Rev Stanley Booth-Clibborn, told peers. He said that he relied on insurance contributions by elderly people could blow the NHS apart.

Lord Bruce-Gardyne (C) had opened the debate on his motion calling attention to the case for

tax relief for people aged 65 and over on direct payments to medical practitioners and hospitals for private health care.

He said that the problem with private health schemes, such as Bupa, was that when the elderly needed them most, they were confronted by rapidly rising charges.

It was a subject that aroused more passion than any other he had dealt with in recent years. The rising costs facing the retired left them feeling disappointed and let down. They

found that after they had contributed for many years, the schemes were not really interested when claims started to multiply.

The Bishop of Manchester said that he believed that the Christian attitude had had a profound influence on shaping the NHS in years gone past.

The principles behind private health care were fundamentally different. That was not to say they were bad, but he regarded them as "morally inferior". The growth of private health

care in recent years had already damaged the NHS in many ways. "It draws us away from the great principle of universal provision."

Lord Wigoder (Lib Dem), chairman of Bupa, said that among its 3.25 million subscribers was Lord Bruce-Gardyne. Lord Bruce-Gardyne had written an article in the press which had contained "more misstatements and inaccuracies than any other article I have ever seen on the subject."

His proposal for tax relief for

private treatment by non-insured patients was practicable. But there were practical dangers that made it a not very attractive alternative. Might he suggest politely that what was in some danger of becoming a vendetta between Lord Bruce-Gardyne and Bupa might now come to a peaceful end?

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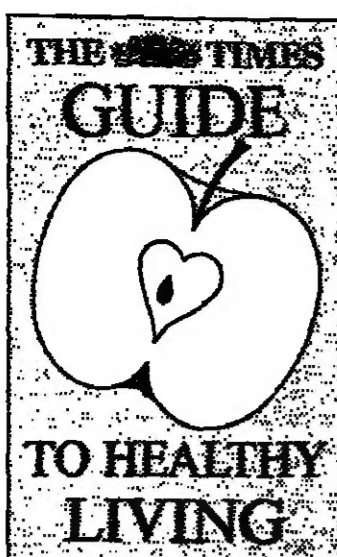
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To the heart of the matter

ROSS KINNARD



Part 5 Love is all you need

Is the quality of our
emotional life the
secret to health
and happiness?

Liz Gill reports

The death of a spouse is by far the most stressful life event: statistics show that the risk of serious illness or sudden death rises dramatically for the bereaved in the year after such a trauma. Dr Jack Dominian, director of the Marriage Research Centre, says: "You can die of a broken heart."

There is also a lot of evidence that divorced people, especially those who do not embark on another long-term relationship, have far more physical and psychological problems than those who stay married.

Men fare worse than women from divorce and the death of a partner. Dominian says that they "tend not to be very good at fending for themselves", whether the reasons are biological or cultural. Married men are generally healthier than single men, but whether their health is better than that of their wives is still unclear. Women go to their doctors more often, but they live longer, and the picture is further complicated by the hazards of child-bearing and child-rearing.

What is certain is that our emotional relationships, particularly sexual ones, can have a profound effect on physical and mental well-being. Dr James Bevan, a general practitioner and the editor of *Sex and Your Health*, reissued next month (Mandarin, £4.99), estimates that in a third of his patients the problem has a physical cause, in another third an emotional cause, and in the remaining third a combination of the two.

"From adolescence onwards sexuality and relationships can have all kinds of effects on our health. Obviously gynaecological problems in women and urinary ones in men may have an emotional component, but I would also look for such clues with any form of depression, anxiety, insomnia and so on."

Dr Judy Gilley, a GP and senior lecturer in general practice at the Royal Free Hospital, believes there is a range of non-specific complaints with a psychosomatic base, including lethargy, fatigue, inability to concentrate, joint pains and skin disorders. "Psychic pains can cause physical pain in a way we don't yet fully understand. They depress our immune system, there may be hormonal influences. For instance, women who are deeply unhappy can suffer destruction of their menstrual cycle. Many patients would rather something had a physical cause. They think that is somehow more acceptable. A lot of people do not appreciate the mind/body link."



Family values: Malcolm and Margaret Wicks with their children — "a stable family can give basic foundations"

HAPPINESS IS — A MARRIED LIFE AND A STABLE FAMILY BACKGROUND

Malcolm Wicks, aged 42, has been happily married to Margaret for more than 20 years. "We started going out together at 16 and married at 21 — probably one of the last generations that got married in such a conventional way," he says. Wicks is director of the Family Policy Studies Unit and has just been elected the prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Croydon North-west. Margaret, a scientist, works part-time in the pathology department of a hospital. They have three children — daughters aged 13 and 15 and a son aged 18. Their youngest daughter, Sarah, suffers from diabetes, but otherwise the family is fit, active and healthy. Wicks is convinced that a happy family life helps to keep them that way. "I don't want to imply that people have to be part of a traditional nuclear family to be happy. I believe all sorts of

different relationships either work or don't work, and that it is a happy and fulfilled life that is important, not just a happy marriage. But a stable family can give you a basic foundation which is important."

"That doesn't mean to say family life is relaxing. In my professional life I study the strategies of family life, but I wouldn't say I always cope wonderfully myself." Wicks believes that the right combination of joint and independent activities have kept his marriage and outlook fresh.

"There are bound to be difficult times in all marriages and if you meet someone in your teens or twenties it is inevitable that you will change and have to make some adjustments. For some people divorce may be the right decision, but my feeling from the evidence is that we've been much too relaxed about it and that people suffer badly because of it."

Though she acknowledges the potential stresses of other relationships, such as those with children, parents, in-laws and friends, Gilley, who trained with the Institute of Psychosexual Medicine, believes the crucial relationship is that between a man and a woman. She feels that the quality of sex is often a reflection of the quality of the relationship.

"Even when there is some decline in actual activity, sex can still be a source of intimacy and affection, of comfort and the enhancement of self-esteem. Nothing succeeds like sex. When someone starts to feel unsuccessful sexually, and unattractive, it can affect other areas of life. Men who become impotent, for example, often begin to fail at work as well."

Impotence, along with premature ejaculation, is the commonest male sexual problem. Yet men, says Dr Elphs Christopher, who runs clinics at North Middlesex and University College Hospital for those with sexual difficulties, are frequently reluctant to accept anything is wrong with them other than the obvious.

Christopher has seen as many men cry as women, once the barriers are broken down. "You sometimes think: 'If only they'd do that at home.' I know this has been said countless times, but you do need to work at marriage. Sex itself takes time and trouble."

She believes sexual and emotional problems are important contributory factors to ulcers, chest pain and high blood pressure in men; to depression, susceptibility to infection and gastroenteric disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome in both sexes; and to a spectrum of gynaecologi-

cal disorders in women. One phenomenon preoccupying experts is the increasing incidence of pelvic pain for which no physiological base can be found.

Part of the problem, Christopher says, may be the menstrual burden of modern western women: women in other times or other cultures have later menarches, earlier menopause and more frequent pregnancies.

Nevertheless, she believes there may be a significant emotional component — because it is found in the female sexual arena. Is it, for instance, reflecting some deep-seated anxiety?

Is it a way of avoiding sex? "The sexual revolution has created as many pressures as it relieved."

Most counsellors agree that promiscuity is dangerous, but

sex without love on occasion need not necessarily be psychologically harmful. "You have to remember that sex means different things at different times," Gilley says. "In mid-life, the security of a stable relationship might be more than sexual passion — but at 18 one's preoccupation may be very different."

One alternative is to step out of the sexual minefield altogether. Liz Hodgkinson, author of *Sex Is Not Compulsory*, argues that celibacy can have dramatically beneficial effects on health. The risk of sexually transmitted diseases is instantly removed and the quality of sleep, she says, for those who no longer have to cope with someone else's snoring, weight or movement, is much improved, with all the attendant benefits.

Sex, she says, is stressful both physiologically and psychologically. People become addicted, and subsequently frustrated.

Hodgkinson, who has been celibate for 10 years — "and my health is A1" — says the state must be chosen rather than imposed. She believes it may be easier for women. "In my researches I found that desire took no time at all to fade in women, but quite a long time in men. The longer they had been active, the longer it took to go."

Couples or individuals with serious marital, sexual or relationship problems can seek help from doctors, counsellors or other specialists. The danger points, however, may be difficult to recognize. Christopher says: "People tend to let things slide, or one partner persists in denying there is a difficulty, so that it can get to an extreme pitch."

Sian Ruszczyński, deputy chairman of the Tavistock Institute of Marital Studies, says it is vital to accept that "conflict is an inevitable part of living. The important thing is not to try to avoid it, but to find ways of dealing with it."

Symptoms of a troubled relationship can be physical, psychological or behavioural. "Generally people feel less lovable, less likeable, less reasonable. They can feel that because their spouse no longer seems to like them, no one else does... A good marriage or long-term relationship reinforces our sense of worth."

Like other experts, Ruszczyński would not argue that a relationship should be preserved at all costs. "For some people, though there is pain in the medium-term, in the long run it may be the best way of moving on emotionally."

Gilley thinks that the difference between staying and leaving boils down to "being able to see light at the end of the tunnel. If people cannot, then they tend to cope. If they cannot, then you may have to impress on them that their health may be more adversely affected if they stay than if they find the strength to come out."



Single solutions: Heather Tyson with her dog Tara — "in a lot of ways it's helpful for me not to be married"

HAPPINESS IS — A GLASS OF WINE AND SOME 'PERSONAL SPACE'

Heather Tyson, aged 38, is a former social worker turned saleswoman who has been a voluntary counsellor with Relate (formerly the National Marriage Guidance Council) for four years. Few of those she counsels realize that she is single. "People assume I have children, just as those with children assume I have children," she says. "But that doesn't worry me, any more than it worries me to be single and not have children, although you do get some pressure from society."

"In a lot of ways it's more helpful for me not to be married, because I don't have preconceived ideas of what a relationship like that should be like. I've never been in a long-term relationship, although I've known several men with whom I've considered marriage."

"I don't say I never get lonely, but over the years I've worked out ways of coping. I may phone a friend

or take a hot bath with a glass of wine and a good book. And, as I tell the people I counsel, there's nothing wrong in occasional self-pity."

Her pets — a dog, a guinea pig, a rabbit and a parakeet — help keep her company, and she has a good network of close friends of both sexes. An only child, she has always enjoyed her own company, and valued having her own "personal space". She says: "As you get older I think you get more selfish. There's nothing wrong with being self-centred, I tell my clients, because it's not until you've sorted yourself out and like yourself that you can relate well to other people. I'm sure my assertiveness training helped me. If you've got a healthy centre you've got a healthy life, and when you're on your own you've got to like yourself, because you're all you've got."

Interviews by Victoria McKee

HEALTH IS — A HUSBAND WHO HAS A WIFE TO GO HOME TO

Women who pay a price

Recent research indicates that it is often mental rather than physical health which is primarily affected by marriage, and that married men tend to be better off, both mentally and physically, than either married women or single men.

In her classic study, *The Future of Marriage* (Yale University Press, 1982), the American sociologist Jessie Bernard analyses the extra benefits of marriage to men in terms of health.

She says: "More married women than married men show phobic reactions, depression and passivity; greater than expected frequency of symptoms of psychological distress; and mental health impairment." According to Bernard, American suicide rates for single men are almost twice as high as for married men, but only one-and-a-half times higher for single women than for married women.

These statistics are borne out by figures provided by Duncan Dornor, of the Marriage Research

Centre at the Central Middlesex Hospital, which show that in the United Kingdom single men are three times as likely to commit suicide as married men, while single women are twice as likely to kill themselves as married women. His figures also reveal that twice as many married women consult a doctor over mental problems as their husbands.

Dr Sally Macintyre, director of the Medical Research Council in Glasgow, is the author of a paper titled "Marriage is good for your health, or is it?" She suggests that marriage is more stressful for women because of the "double burden" that they must carry of work and home.

"Married women who do not work outside the home may suffer from isolation and lack of social support, which may also be stressful and affect health... marriage for men may, on the contrary, represent a safe haven of emotional, domestic and material support which may enhance mental and physical health."

In their new book, *Wedlocked?*

(published this week by Polity Press, £29.50 hardback, £8.95 paperback), David Clark and Douglas Haldane point out that "the general health of those who are married is better than that of their single, widowed, divorced or separated counterparts. Significantly, these differences are greater for men than for women."

Death rates for conditions such as cancer of the respiratory and digestive systems, stroke, cirrhosis of the liver and pneumonia are between two and six times higher among divorced men than married men.

There are also dramatic differences between the married and the divorced in deaths by suicide, homicide and motor vehicle accidents. In health terms, therefore, it would seem that husbands have more to lose than their wives by the ending of a marriage."

Clark and Haldane conclude that "the marriage relationship, which protects and bolsters the psycho-social well-being of men, impoverishes that of women."

Sara Driver

HOME IS — WHERE HEARTS ARE BROKEN OR MENDED

How to build a refuge

In Dr Richard Rahe's league table of stressful events in life, the first seven relate more to home and private life than to work. Longfellow may suggest that home is where the heart is, but, as doctors know all too well, it is also where the heart can be destroyed. With a soundly based domestic life, disasters at work can be accepted, but if the home life is crumbling the luckless wage earner or earners — of either sex — are fighting on two fronts and never have a chance to relax and regroup for the next day's battles. With the backing of a supportive family home can become a redoubt to which the worker retreats for refuge and relaxation. Even the structure of the house is important — a cold, cramped, poorly lit house is unlikely to improve morale when there is stress at work.

Leisure time needs planning. Daily brisk exercises have to be fitted into the schedule, as do hobbies. But, in the main, time at home is for spending with the family. Nothing can be worse than to labour all day at a job and then in the evening do similar voluntary work for an organization. An extreme example is the bank manager who becomes a treasurer of a number of local committees. There can be exceptions. It is not unreasonable for people who have been refused promotion, or have been passed over, to seek reassurance outside their working life that their worth is recognized. They might have failed to reach the boardroom, but how soothing to wounded pride if they can be honoured by their local community as commodore of the yacht club, chairperson of the bench or

chief of whatever other organization interests them.

There is enough of the voyeur in most people for them to enjoy a quick read of the newspaper agony aunts. The impression gained from these columns is that most marriages are unsuccessful, and that the basic cause is the failure of a sex life. This impression may well be false, for people with contented marriages and an acceptance of the sexual status quo seldom write to agony aunts. Even if they did, their letters would not make good reading. Surveys into marriages are difficult to organize, as people are, not unnaturally, reluctant to talk to strange interviewers about their personal relations. It has even been shown that when questioned by doctors they know and trust, patients still tailor their answers so as to give replies they think expedient.

About 15 years ago an extensive, but not carefully structured, study was made of the marriages of hundreds of mainly middle-aged, middle-class people. The embarrassment of personal questioning was avoided by using a computer. The questions were shown, in total privacy, on the screen, and answered on a simple keyboard.

The replies gave an unexpected and interesting insight into sex and marriage in this group. More than half of those questioned said that their marriage was just about as happy as they had expected it to be when they married, and 25 per cent said the marriage had actually exceeded expectations. A remarkably high proportion of those who had been married for about 20

years said their sex life had become either perfunctory or non-existent, but analysis showed that its presence or absence bore little relationship to how the respondents assessed the general quality of their marriage. The important factor in determining this seemed to be the depth of the friendship which had developed over the years and not the vigour they displayed, or failed to display, between the sheets. My Brown, wife of the MP Ron Brown, expressed this same view very succinctly last week.

A sound home life can often be judged by a person's approach to holidays. The annual holiday has become such an important part of the year that when it is renounced, whatever excuse is offered, it is usually because of one of two reasons — either financial stringency or marital disharmony. If a partner's jokes have become irritating, conversation irritating and if a couple's interests have diverged over the years, spending three weeks pretending to enjoy a holiday which has been arranged either as a compromise for both, or represents a capitulation for one, is unlikely to be a good cure for stress at work.

But if the marriage partnership lacks the quality of easy friendship there are better ways of solving the holiday problem than by simply taking separate holidays. An activity holiday shared with other people can ease the tension. When family holidays are planned, hiring a villa, with plenty of space, room service and a nearby restaurant, may provide the independence and privacy needed to make the holiday a success.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford



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FRIDAY PAGE

Life after marriage

Britain needs its women workers — now. Audrey Slaughter urges them to be ready for the call

Kate Cosgrove married at 18 after travelling around the archaeological world with her parents. Without an O level to her name, Kate believed herself fortunate to be safely married so young.

Except that marriage is not always such a safe haven. Kate's marriage came apart in her early thirties and, with no obvious means of earning a living to support herself and two young teenage children, stark reality loomed.

Kate is fictional, the main character of my first novel, *Private View*, but having edited women's magazines for most of my working life and been an agony aunt on another for the past year, I know from readers' letters that her case is all too common.

Indeed, I suppose I was quite like her. I was married for the first time before I was 20, and had two children. Before I was 30 the marriage had broken down. Luckily, I had some skills and my earning power was quite high, but it was still a struggle. How much worse for the Kates of the world.

Of course, many women wed young and stay happily married "ever after". I know some of them and I envy them, but they are rare. Indeed, the statistics paint a dire picture. According to the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys figures for 1985, 50 per cent of young marriages end in divorce, and more than four million marriages are ended by divorce or bereavement — and that does not include separations.

There is no marital partner for 73 per cent of women. Unless a woman has acquired her earning power, it means that often, after a marriage break-up, she will have to take a debilitating, low-paid, unskilled job. Husbands can be made to support children but, as the Prime Minister pointed out this week, some erring husbands have a way of disappearing. Payments often lag behind needs.



Slaughter's progress: on *Petticoat* in the 1960s; (next left) on *Over 21* in the 1970s and *Working Women* in the 1980s

It is my fervent belief that very early in a woman's life the gritty truth must be hammered home that she has to be self-reliant. Sometimes I have been accused of being anti-men. Nothing could be further from the truth. Isn't it a greater compliment to a man that you marry because you want him and not his pay packet?

In fact, women are a resourceful bunch. Once they can get over the low self-esteem that any kind of failure incurs, they bounce back, concentrating the things they can do which might

be turned into a commercial talent.

But it is not easy for women to work and have a husband and family unless there is some fundamental rethinking in the way we run our lives. Few women make it to the top in their careers.

There is now a depressing backlash which is showing that women who wanted to have it all — husband, children, well-paid job — during the enthusiastic Eighties are realizing that what they have is permanent exhaustion. No wonder so many women are

dropping out just as the Government discovers it needs their skills in the workplace.

There must be answers. Perhaps, now that the faithful "market forces" have shown employers that they need female skills, companies will find them. I sent untrained Kate Cosgrove stumbling painfully through the pages of my book. Funny enough, it was a journey of self-discovery that she, and many like her, actually enjoyed.

● *Private View* is published on February 25 by Doubleday (£12.95).

...and rejoining the 'real' world

On Monday "Back to the Future", a drive to boost the number of women returning to work after a career break, will be launched on Radio 4's *Woman's Hour*. The series of broadcasts and conferences, supported by the Employment Department Group, aims to encourage women to "identify their strengths, build confidence, learn how to transfer skills acquired at home to the workplace and take advantage of the right job opportunities".

But is it a case of back to the future or back to the wall for women returners? Jo Richardson, MP, Labour's shadow minister for women, is worried that "they are wooing women back as cheap labour" to do jobs that men don't want. "Employers must be made to think about why they're ghettoizing women," she says. "We

have employers, like the banks, which say they've got good, forward-looking policies, but it is only jobs at a certain level that they are encouraging women to fill. We must see equal pay for jobs of equal value, a statutory minimum wage and some kind of support for women who need childcare."

On Tuesday, Edwina Currie asked in the House of Commons what further measures would be taken to encourage the return of women to the workforce. Patrick Nicholson, the Under-Secretary of State for Employment, said: "The Government is encouraging employers to adapt traditional working practices to accommodate the needs of women. This means more flexibility in hours of work, in holidays, job-sharing, career breaks, part-time working and, where possible, help with childcare costs." Richardson remains sceptical. "In

an employment debate in the mid-1980s, Edwina Currie suggested employers should grab women because they're cheap labour. She was saying — proudly — that women were less demanding and more flexible. That philosophy has helped to continue the sub-category of low-paid women."

Currie says, in reply: "I was merely reporting that male employment fell and female employment increased during the 1980s because women tended to be more flexible. My point was that it was happening, not that it was right and proper."

"But we have moved on. Today, most women work and most mothers are working. But where do we go from here? The Government already subsidizes childcare, though nobody takes advantage of it. Anyone who gets her

employer to pay part of her childcare doesn't have to pay National Insurance on that money, and nor does the employer have to pay it."

Clare Sclerle-Grey, editor of *Woman's Hour*, says: "The conferences are being organized by the Pepperell Unit of the Industrial Society and are in no way controlled by the Department of Employment. We just want to give women a chance to see what's on offer, for good or bad."

Victoria McKee

● A free booklet is available from "Back to the Future", BBC, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA (enclose an A4 SAE) and a free Helpline (0800 100 900) will be available on the days of the broadcasts. Listen to *Woman's Hour* (2 pm, Radio 4, Monday) for further details. The *March* issue of *Good Housekeeping* will also include a free booklet for women returning to work.

How to hijack decent causes

Did you read last Monday's *Times* interview with Nina Temple, the new general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain? It was rather a warm piece, I felt, a woman-to-woman thing. One could sense the shared home truths as author Victoria Glendinning chatted with this "lively... articulate, outgoing, optimistic and youngest general secretary to date" in the few moments before Miss Temple dashed off to nursery school to collect her children. Not one cloud on the horizon as Miss Glendinning viewed the new female face of the British Communist Party.

Ah, well, I thought. If only the National Front had had sense enough to choose as its leader a happy young woman from a north London comprehensive, given to ethnic earrings and breast-feeding, rather than John Tyndall, that awful man with no eyelashes to speak of and a taste for jackboots.

"Everyone wants to meet Nina Temple," began Miss Glendinning. Well, perhaps. Miss Temple had condemned the invasion of Czechoslovakia ("not at the time — I was only 11 — but on the tenth anniversary...") and made it perfectly clear that she did not like Stalin, Brezhnev or "the old Bolshevik model of centralism, discipline and class war". This is exciting stuff and one can hear the clink of glasses as Miss Glendinning and Miss Temple give the heave-ho to all that stuff. The new general secretary is "ditching, for a start, the old Leninist structure of the British CP", which couldn't be more welcomed. Still, this is where the tricky business begins. What is it in Marxism-Leninism that Miss Temple is not ditching?

Well, Karl Marx, for one thing, although Miss Temple, being on close terms, just calls him Karl. "As Karl said, 'it is people that make history,'" says Miss Temple. I actually don't know of anyone who thinks that anything else does, but I let that pass. But, if Miss Temple is stuck with Karl, well, that gives us the Communist Manifesto for a beginning, and I do think that might be rather troubling. Miss Temple herself is clear-eyed about the whole awkward business of "reclaiming" Communism. "If the name is too much of a



BARBARA AMIEL

barrier it can't be reclaimed," she explains. "I have an idealistic idea of Communism as a splendid thing. Christians didn't give up because of the Inquisition."

This, I think, is where I might have got up from Miss Temple's feet. The Christians, I would have murmured, did have certain things going for them before the Inquisition. They had, for example, Jesus Christ and St Thomas Aquinas. I am not a religious person, you understand, but the Sermon on the Mount and the Communist Manifesto just aren't in the same boat. I

'What is it that Miss Temple is not ditching?'

took the precaution of re-reading the Communist Manifesto, as well as a bit of Engels, and I just don't see a way out. The line from Marx to the Gulag is as straight and inevitable as the line from *Mein Kampf* to the concentration camps. As eco-pure as the word "reclaim" may be, I just don't see how one can reclaim Nazism or Communism, except for those people forever prey to the totalitarian temptation.

The interview is important for that very reason. Human evil is unlikely to die with the destruction of the "evil empire". After all, evil did not end when Adolf Hitler finally did one right thing in his bunker and finished himself off. Where will all the envy, intolerance, and other deadly sins go now that the world is

facing its post-Communist phase?

Miss Temple sees the new Communist Party as "a force which is feminist and green". This is the answer, I think. The totalitarian impulse is a parasitic one which needs a host body — and it thrives on decent causes. It was, after all, a perfectly decent notion that people should not be down-trodden or exploited, just as the nationalist notion that groups should have their own autonomy was decent enough. Both were hijacked by totalitarianism.

The central themes of feminism and the greens, that women should have equality and that we should clean up the mess we make, are legitimate causes. They are indeed the popular causes of our time, and madmen need to be in tune with the *Zeitgeist* to achieve their ends. We have had red, black and brown fascism. Perhaps the time has come for the green version, as practised by both the zealots of the environment and those of fundamentalist Islam. Some of today's militant eco-freaks do remind one of the great wandering youth movements who, with their Rousseauism and an intolerance for modernism, were the precursors of the modern Nazis.

Miss Glendinning, of course, is no totalitarian. She is, apart from being a splendidly talented biographer, a member of that literary intelligentsia whose ordering principle is contempt — contempt for vulgarity, contempt for materialism, contempt for those whose lives are lived on a less spiritual plane of existence than hers. That, I think, rather than envy, was behind her notable statement in the *Observer* in the 1987 election campaign, when she said she was "far more shocked" by Mrs Thatcher's policies than by those of the extreme Left.

Miss Glendinning sees the shabby clutter of the offices of the Communist Party of Great Britain, with jars of homemade chutney and "an antiquated tea-urn", as "all very sympathetic and English". Well, yes. But I remember that Adolf Hitler was not personally corrupt, and preferred simple surroundings most of his life. A shared aesthetic does not guarantee a shared categorical imperative.

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WRITE NAME & ADDRESS ON BACK OF CHEQUES

THE TIMES

Future greens

Damian Rundle's book *Teaching Green* (Green Print, £7.95) is useful for both teachers and parents, showing ways of encouraging eco-consciousness among school children by incorporating "green" matters into the curriculum — and, at the same time, into play. There are examples of games and projects — such as constructing a robot-like puppet from discarded cans, or "musical rain forests" — which aim to satisfy children's needs on every level: emotional, physical and intellectual. Rundle also produces a bi-monthly, non-profit publication, *Green Teacher*, which focuses on topics such as global education, green music teaching and practical solar power, and acts as a forum for teachers at every level to exchange and share classroom experiences, theories and ideas on how to incorporate green ideas into the lives of students of all ages. Individual UK subscriptions are £10 a year, with discounts for multiple subscriptions by colleges and schools. Contact *Green Teacher* at Maccynlleth, Powys, Wales SY20 8DN (0654 2141).

Peeling off

Scientists at the Argonne Laboratory in the United States have evolved what may turn out to be the ultimate biodegradable plastic — created from potato peelings. A viable product made from it should be available in the shops within three years. There are also plans to transform other natural products — including corn, sorghum, wheat and even cheese whey — into alternatives to present-day plastics.

Tree beauty

Montagne Jeunesse is a range of cruelty-free, natural beauty products available through most supermarkets. All the

ECOSPHERE

News on environmental issues

products are packaged attractively in recycled glass bottles with cork stoppers, and are scented with natural fragrances such as lime, orchid, vanilla and passionfruit. Prices start at 99p for soaps, and at the moment Montagne Jeunesse is running an on-pack "Rainforest Appeal", promising to donate a percentage of profits to preserve the world's rainforests.

World power

Anyone with a computer, a modem and an inquiring mind can now be part of GreenNet, a global communications network established to facilitate the free exchange of environmental information. Most subscribers are organizations involved in environmental and peace movements, and membership enables them to gather data from around the globe on anything from acid rain to the Star Wars satellite missile programme, via electronic mail and a database of organizations, news clippings, newsletters, government reports, and so on. The rock musician Peter Gabriel, an avid supporter, declares: "Information is power. It is time to take it into the hands and homes of those working to improve the world." Subscribers are asked to make a £30 deposit, there is a minimum monthly charge of £5, and connected time costs 9p per minute; the service is priced to put it within the grasp of struggling environmental groups. Members can also use GreenNet's desktop publishing facilities and obtain computer equipment at favourable prices. For details contact GreenNet at 26 Underwood Street, London N1 7JQ.

Josephine Fairley

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ABOVE SUSPICION

The resignation of a Scottish judge for reasons associated with the practice of homosexuality raises a number of fundamental questions both about the level of probity demanded of public figures, and about the morality and acceptability of homosexuality. If homosexual activity is regarded as shameful, a judge who indulges in it in secret will be open to the possibility of blackmail, either for the extraction of money or, more dangerously for the public interest, for the inducement of a judicial favour. And the respect in which the judiciary ought to be held could be undermined, even held up to ridicule.

Attitudes to homosexuality remain confused and contradictory. There was a major shift of public feeling in the 1950s and 1960s, which resulted in the removal, with some exceptions, of criminal sanction against adult homosexual activity in private. Public attitudes have not, however, moved to the opposite extreme. The equivalence of homosexual and heterosexual activity is not recognized in either English or Scottish law. Homosexual activity remains a criminal offence in the armed services; the age limits below which sexual intercourse becomes criminal are different; there are different limits to what may be done lawfully in public. And local government authorities are prohibited from advancing the view that homosexual relations are morally equivalent to heterosexual relations.

The law's disapproval of homosexuality is by and large supported by public opinion. Public conduct — kissing, holding hands — which would be thought unremarkable in couples of the opposite sex can still give offence when displayed between couples of the same sex. In the minds of many people, the stigma associated with the word "unnatural" still applies.

For these reasons it is only realistic to accept that an active homosexual must run a certain risk of blackmail, all the more so if he occupies a sensitive position in society. A distinction has been proposed in the Scottish case between homosexual behaviour which is confined to a discreet and stable relationship, and that which is not, a distinction familiar from debates within the Church of England and Church of Scotland. There may or may not be theological merit in preferring homosexual liaisons to

correspond as closely as possible to the Christian ideal of heterosexual marriage, but it does not have much relevance to the risk of blackmail.

Anyone who fears his private arrangements being made public, whatever they are, is open to pressure from someone who is prepared to do just that. This necessarily introduces a degree of moral relativity into the debate: an entertainer, for instance, would be less vulnerable to such pressure, because the general expectations would be different in that case. Expectations are bound to be stricter when someone's public duties explicitly involve them in upholding moral standards, a principle which applies as much to the clergy as to judges. The more senior the position the greater the expectation will be. A judge necessarily has less freedom than his clerk in these matters, a clerk less than a layman.

Most people would agree that a judge is in this category, and is therefore to be expected to behave much more conventionally and conservatively than men in most other walks of life. And as long as that is the case, it is not advisable for senior judicial appointments to be offered to practising homosexuals, or for them to be accepted. Even grounds for strong suspicion and scandal-mongering need to be avoided. Sad though it may be in its impact on individuals, the maintenance of public confidence in the judiciary, which demands a stern defence of the dignity and respect due to members of it, is overwhelmingly more important.

The presence of a homosexual inclination or preference is not by itself criminal, sinful or scandalous, and therefore no bar to office of any kind, whether it is hidden or admitted. It is really nobody's business. But the distinction between inclination and conduct is a valid one. A married heterosexual need not be ashamed of a mere inclination or attraction towards members of the opposite sex, provided he remains faithful to his marriage vows. To translate inclination into action, in such a case, is to cross a very big line. It is not unreasonable to apply the analogy to a homosexual. It is a distinction the public already accepts and understands.

MR HURD'S CHINESE PUZZLE

No sooner had the Government braved opposition on its own back benches to announce last month that 50,000 heads of household in Hong Kong would be granted the right to reside in the United Kingdom, than the political barometer in Peking gave warning of stormy weather to come. This week the cloud finally burst: a Chinese official on the drafting committee for the future Basic Law declared that, under Chinese rule, British passport-holders would be deported from public office and deprived of British consular protection.

It is to be hoped that Peking's decision is not final. The time which has still to elapse before the colony passes into Chinese hands may be sufficient for a reversal of the return to Maoist orthodoxy which has prevailed since the Tiananmen Square massacre.

The Government must, of course, make its dispositions with an eye to the worst possible case, and there can be no doubt that Peking's hostile stance, supported as it is by overwhelming military force, does change the situation very considerably. The Chinese do not seem to have grasped that the policy being pursued by the British Government represents a compromise between those who wanted all Hong Kong Chinese to receive British passports and those who wanted none to do so. It was the least that could be done to discharge our moral responsibilities.

To have granted such rights to fewer people, or to none, would merely have ensured that Hong Kong's best talents would despair of help from Britain and seek the first opportunity to emigrate elsewhere. To have offered rights of residence to most of the colony's inhabitants might well have provoked a more fearsome retribution than that threatened by Tory backwoodsmen or the leadership of the Labour Party.

Quite apart from the entertaining domestic sideshow of Mr Tebbit's rebels, who currently appear to be making common cause with Peking, the Government is now faced with two seemingly irreconcilable tasks. It must simultaneously reassure Hong Kong, where it is

accused of irresolution and of drawing invidious distinctions between citizens, and mainland China, where the charge is one of breaking the letter of the Sino-British accords.

The Foreign Secretary made a creditable start in reconciling these contradictory aims with his well-received visit to the colony this week, during which he convinced them that promises once made will be kept. Not only the magnates, but the broad middle classes of Hong Kong quietly saluted Mr Hurd's moral courage in nailing his political colours to the mast of limited dual citizenship. The atmosphere had evidently changed since last year, when Sir Geoffrey Howe sought in vain to allay fears that the colony was being abandoned to its fate.

It will, though, be necessary for the Prime Minister herself to lend her authority to the present undertakings. A visit by her to the colony later this year would strengthen the fragile recovery of confidence there. Such a visit would need to be well-prepared. Above all, it would need to be carefully timed to coincide with a diplomatic offensive, concerted with Britain's allies and friends abroad, to put pressure on Peking.

China's present leadership needs little encouragement to retreat into a siege mentality; hence inducements must be kept in reserve to tempt the dragon out of its lair. Since the Hong Kong question has implications for the whole European Community, this is an issue on which a much stronger line from the Council of Ministers would not come amiss. The United States could also offer valuable help. The Prime Minister — who did not hesitate to lend moral support to Washington over Panama — should not be too proud to ask for it.

By seeking to deny Hong Kong a fair and necessary safeguard, Peking has raised the stakes. It is now for Mrs Thatcher to rise to the occasion, which is nothing less than the postscript to the unfinished history of the British Empire.

PLAYING THE GAME

Mr Mike Gatting and his team of English cricketers start their tour of South Africa today amid conditions of almost unprecedented security. The Mass Democratic Movement and its allies may see this as a victory for their cause, but are they really serving their best interests? The widespread disruptive campaign which has been planned could well damage the very ideal they are embracing.

The first argument concerns multiracial sport. There can be little doubt that the international sports boycott has had a profound effect upon the country. Few other measures could have produced such a sense of isolation among the white minority, and the result has been progress towards multiracial sport. Mr AH Bacher, managing director of the South African Cricket Union — and the man behind the present "rebel" tour — deserves credit for his efforts. There is still a long way to go before the black and white people in South Africa have equal sporting opportunities and facilities, but the situation has substantially improved.

If South Africans are to move further, however, there must be carrots as well as sticks. In fact, the only reward for their achievement has been a cynical indifference from their critics, who say there can be no relaxation until apartheid has been totally dismantled — "No normal sport in an abnormal society".

By moving the goalposts, however, those critics have lost sight of their original objective. At the International Cricket Conference a year ago, the more militant cricketing

countries represented would not even entertain a British proposal that an investigative mission be sent to South Africa to see for itself what progress had been made. There are actually fewer sporting contacts now than there were when games were entirely segregated. The result of such a negative approach is to discourage those who are trying to respond.

Another argument against these demonstrations is that they could delay political progress. President F. W. de Klerk has made significant strides towards ending the injustice of racial segregation. Next month on the resumption of Parliament in Cape Town he is expected to announce further moves towards a political settlement, perhaps lighting the way towards a dialogue with the African National Congress. For the Mass Democratic Movement to divert attention from these political developments towards the street theatre and violence of the past could turn back the clock to the disadvantage of everyone except perhaps the ultra-conservative right.

The motives of Messrs Gatting and company may well be mixed. No doubt the lure of money most attracted those in the twilight of their playing days. Young and not-so-young knew the penalties they faced, however, and no doubt reached a finely-balanced decision. However that may be, the occasional unofficial tour of South Africa might now seem a fitting response in the changed circumstances. The resumption of such occasional sporting contacts should be encouraged, not seen as a political *caveat* *belli*.

Union's view of Aerospace strikes

From the President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union Sir, Your footballing headline "Mr Jordan's own goal" (your editorial, January 11) fits in well with the partisan contents. Lord Dowding's letter (January 13) equally fails to examine both sides of the argument.

M Pierson, Chief Executive of Airbus Industrie, whose complaints about British Aerospace's mismanagement of the claim are justified, obviously knows more about the history of the engineers' dispute than you are prepared to acknowledge.

He knows that a year and four months have passed since the engineering unions lodged their claim for the 35-hour week; knows that eight months of negotiation with the EEF (Engineering Employers' Federation) culminated in the rejection by them of an exceptionally constructive proposal of a two-year agreement that gave two hours off the working week for all in the industry (an agreement that would have brought us in line with West German engineering working hours).

A year and one month after the claim was submitted, strikes began at Aerospace plants. Since that time, other major British Aerospace companies have settled amicably with the CSEU (Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions). We have at local and national level within British Aerospace tried to obtain a negotiated end to this dispute, and are still working to that end.

The engineering industry has seen spectacular productivity increases over the last decade and it is glaringly obvious that if the engineering employers had been as willing to invest in training and new technology as their employees were to accept changed working practices, there would be no productivity gap with our competitors.

The plain truth is that if British workers continue to accept low pay and long hours, they only collaborate with inefficiency.

You advise that I should not plan any fraternal visits abroad. In fact, I have only just returned from a visit to the Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm factory in Hamburg where I received knowledgeable and total support from the German Metalworkers' Union. In particular, support from its members there who are, of course, reliant on Airbus Industrie for their living.

The engineering unions are determined that all their members in every engineering company in the UK will benefit from a shorter working week. We would prefer to get it through negotiation, the productive and profitable way, as we have shown with NEI Parsons, GKN Axles, and others. The EEF chose at national level to obstruct this long overdue reform of working hours in our industry. We are all paying for their misjudgement. Yours faithfully, BILL JORDAN, President, Amalgamated Engineering Union, 110 Peckham Road, SE15, January 16.

Digging up London

From Mr Ralph Merrifield Sir, The prospect of competitive tendering for archaeological excavation in London, discussed in your report of January 13, has disturbing implications. To substitute such a system for the service now administered by the Museum of London should surely be preceded by a consultative paper stating in detail the long-term aim and the steps by which it is to be achieved.

The present service, the continued funding of which was guaranteed by the Government when the GLC was abolished, has in-built advantages which cannot be relinquished lightly. It ensures the availability of archaeologists dedicated to building up knowledge of London's past, which they are assembling piecemeal from many sites.

In doing so they have acquired over the years an unrivalled experience of London's special problems, and know precisely the questions to be asked in exploring a new site. As London residents they should be more cost-effective than visiting archaeologists using expensive temporary accommodation.

Lack of commitment to London's history by transient archaeologists, who are likely to be less troublesome to developers in their initial demands and in pursuing a subsequent investigation, will result in minimal excavation and opportunities lost for ever. Yours faithfully, RALPH MERRIFIELD (Chairman, Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee), 6-8 Cole Street, SE1, January 17.

Cause of inflation

From Sir Ian Morrow Sir, The answer to Mr A. M. Pay (January 17) is that interest rates and profits are largely determined by the market. Wages are determined by employers' ability to resist inflationary claims from the unions. History records that employers are not very good at resisting claims which are backed up by disruptive tactics and threats of strikes. Yours truly, IAN MORROW, 3 Albert Terrace Mews, NW1, January 17.

Truth and justice on war crimes

From the European Director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre

Sir, Your correspondent, I. N. Duncan Wallace, QC (January 17) missed several points.

1. He calls the perpetrators of war crimes "Latvians, Estonians, and Lithuanians", but refers to their victims as "Soviet citizens, in the main of Jewish origin". This denaturalizes the victims who were also citizens of those independent republics and had for generations lived among those who became their murderers — a slur by your correspondent that smacks of the prejudice of the place and the period.

2. To speak of "the attempted genocide" of these Baltic peoples and "in the Ukraine" while referring to the mass murder of Jewish men, women, and children as "allegedly mistreating Soviet citizens", is not only depreciation of the horror, but, considering that these regions are today virtually Judenrein (purged of Jews) quite outrageous. This can only serve the anti-Semitic of so-called "revisionists" who, rejecting all historical evidence, deny the Holocaust even happened.

3. Trials of war criminals who have abused British hospitality for too long, will not condone the atrocities of the Soviet Union, nor address charges collectively at entire national communities. Should perpetrators of murders committed in the name of Moscow be residing in the United Kingdom, their place should likewise be in the dock.

4. The warning of a pogrom in the Ukraine as a result of British justice taking its course is a strange twist. Surely trials in the United Kingdom might, on the contrary, deter future perpetrators. Double standards only endanger the Jewish surviving remnants of the Holocaust and other minorities in the Soviet Union, by inciting one against the other.

5. If Mr Wallace really wishes to unite "politics" and "principle", he might encourage Balts, Ukrainians, Jews, and others to work together and face the challenges of a post-Stalinist Soviet Union. At a reception I attended last month at the Lithuanian "Embassy" in Moscow in honour of the first Jewish Congress of the Soviet Union, our hosts expressed revulsion and remorse for the massacres of Jews in their country. They demanded a complete exposure of the truth, whether of the Holo-

caust or the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact as affecting Lithuania.

War crimes trials similarly aim not only at justice for the victims, but justice to the truth. Mr Wallace's positions do a disservice to the cause of historical integrity. Yours faithfully, SHIMON SAMUELS, European Director, Simon Wiesenthal Centre, 134 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, 5008 Paris, France, January 17.

From Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP for Orpington (Conservative)

Sir, If the issue in the war crimes trials controversy were as simple as your correspondents claim (namely, whether we should retrospectively extend the extra-territorial jurisdiction of British courts to British citizens who were not British at the time of the alleged crime) one might indeed wonder what all the fuss is about.

In fact, Messrs Janner and Marshall (January 8) and Brichio (January 9) conveniently ignore the fact that the Hetherington report bases its judgment of the sufficiency of evidence on the assumption that certain significant changes will be made to the normal rules of evidence and procedure solely for the purpose of these proposed trials.

These changes include the cancellation of committal proceedings; the admittance of foreign video recordings; the use of live television links; the admittance as evidence of written statements in a foreign language by aged witnesses unwilling to attend court; the admittance of written statements taken, in circumstances which may never be known, by persons now dead; the admittance of documents without requiring the maker or authenticator to attend court.

All this against the background of events a half-century ago and a thousand miles away, with no realistic chance of the defence seeking or finding evidence and witnesses in support of their case. Such changes are not "in accord with current practice", as Mr Janner claims. On the contrary, they are prerequisites for a rigged trial. No wonder the whole idea is repugnant to Barbara Amiel ("War crimes: a flimsy case", January 3) as it is to most British lawyers.

Yours faithfully, IVOR STANBROOK, House of Commons.

Disaster relief

From Mr Peter J. Burton

Sir, Hugh Hanning (January 17) is talking nonsense when he derides Britain's record in responding to disaster relief. Frequently the Overseas Development Administration's Disaster Unit is among the first to provide relief aid to a disaster overseas. The Armenian earthquake in December, 1988, which he mentions, was a case in point. We were in action again in Romania immediately help was needed.

But this is not the point. This is not a race with other countries, nor an exercise to catch headlines. It is an operation to save lives. Victims of disasters have a right to get the help they really need. We make sure we get that help to the right place at the right time. If you send the wrong items you simply clog up the supply lines and prevent other supplies getting through — supplies which might save lives.

Rushdie and the law

From Mr Yunus Ismail

Sir, Robert Kilroy-Silk's article of January 12 ("Salman Rushdie and the short arm of the law") fails to show any understanding of the relationship between Muslims and Islamic law. The latter is a group of religious laws not restricted by citizenship or domicile or residence in a country, but applied by virtue of professing the religion. It is based on a man's duties or obligations rather than on his rights and the sanction is that he will fall into sin.

Islamic law has wider application than any secular system of law, since it claims to regulate all aspects of a man's life, his duties to God, to his neighbour, and to himself.

Whilst I cannot condone calls for the murder of Mr Rushdie, I

David Wyatt makes just these points in his letter (January 15), which Mr Hanning presumably had not seen when he wrote. I hope he has now read it.

The Disaster Unit was set up 15 years ago specifically to respond to natural and man-made disasters overseas. In that time we have sprung into action 650 times and supplied material worth £123 million — in addition to food supplies worth many millions.

Our work is readily acknowledged by the countries we are able to help. In Armenia our work was recognised by the bestowing of an honour by the USSR Government. It is a pity that Mr Hanning, who knows us well, is not prepared to acknowledge this too.

Yours faithfully, PETER J. BURTON (Head of Disaster Unit), Overseas Development Administration, Eland House, Stag Place, SW1, January 18.

can appreciate the impact his book has had on the Muslim community, whose lives revolve around the Koran and its teachings. Perhaps the question Kilroy-Silk ought to be asking is: "Why is the DPP taking so long to prosecute Rushdie?" After all, a 18 of the Public Order Act 1986 reads:

A person who uses... abusive or insulting words... or displays any written material which is... abusive or insulting is guilty of an offence if... having regard to all the circumstances including hatred is likely to be stirred up thereby.

This is an objective test. Given Rushdie's origins, his understanding of the Muslim psyche, and the inherent racial difficulties in the UK, I submit that the DPP has an excellent case.

Yours faithfully, YUNUS ISMAIL, 32 Crawford Place, W1, January 16.

the wings of the pure science lobby.

To this end, Mr Davis's proposals are insufficiently radical. Perhaps we need an Office of Technology Assessment, on the American model, to guide Government investment in research. Even better, outside a few centres of excellence devoted to world-class pure research, the Government should bring real market pressures to bear by making all Government funding of scientific research contingent upon matching funds from private enterprise.

Yours faithfully, JOHN BERCOW, 2 Pinkerton Place, Tooting Bec Gardens, SW16.

Unwilling to wait that long, I put a first-class stamp on my application and posted it from a pillar box over the road. The consulate has no letter box.

The application reached the consulate on January 16, having taken 10 days to arrive a distance approximately 50 yards away. My flight to Moscow left without me.

Yours faithfully, PHIL GODDARD, 70 Cricklewood Broadway, NW2, January 16.

'999' courses in short supply

From Mr Peter Radoux

Sir, I was pleased to read in *The Times* (report, January 10) that the Government wish to increase the number of ambulance staff with paramedical skills. In my own case, I have been trying since 1983 to secure a place on just such a course, first by attending night school in my own time and at my own expense for two years, whilst a member of the Association of Emergency Medical Technicians; secondly, by sacrificing many rest days to attend lectures given at local hospitals and by the ambulance service.

Entrance exams to the NHS training authority's paramedic course were held almost two years ago. Since then only six ambulance personnel from West Sussex have been given places on that course. I have yet to receive my own course dates, despite the fact that I passed the exam in May, 1988.

I would also say that whilst not paramedics, the vast majority of West Sussex qualified ambulance personnel are trained in many life-saving skills, including the use of cardiac monitor/defibrillators and nebulisers for the treatment of asthmatics.

West Sussex ambulance service employs a two-tier staffing system, whereby second-tier staff are responsible for the transport of all out-patients (a valuable training period while waiting to go on to the first tier), and first-tier staff are used to attend all accident and emergency calls (accounting for 95 per cent of their duties). Training for qualified staff lasts for 64 weeks so, whilst they are not paramedics, they are clearly more than "professional drivers". Yours faithfully, PETER RADOUX, 14 Woodcroft, Broadfield, Crawley, West Sussex, January 17.

Hong Kong entry

From Dr A. H. Seville

Sir, Suppose that from Hong Kong we allowed in for settlement with their families only those who had already successfully completed a course of higher education here. It would be a simple criterion, automatically selecting those who had established a close connection with this country and who had contributed financially and intellectually to our education system. It would be less inequitable than a plain financial test, there would be few problems of adjustment — and we need the graduates.

I know that the ability, diligence, and courtesy of this group of former students would be an additional recommendation. Indeed, I can think of no respectable reason why their possible entry should be opposed. The numbers involved are comparable with those presently being considered by the Government.

Yours sincerely, ADRIAN SEVILLE (Academic Registrar), City University, Northampton Square, EC1.

Museum charges

From the Director General of the Imperial War Museum

Sir, Miss Geddes (January 17) is quite right to draw attention to the cost of collecting and conserving exhibits and consequently museums today have systems of establishing exactly what these costs are. We also operate quite sophisticated performance measures for curatorial tasks. Indeed, it is because the national museums are sensibly and efficiently managed that we know precisely what our financial problems are.

For the same reason many of us now believe that museum charges make a measurable and positive contribution to the museum economy. At the Imperial War Museum we have also shown that a combination of lively displays and energetic marketing results in increasing numbers of visitors, even when a charge is imposed.

Yours faithfully, ALAN BORG, Director General, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, SE1.

Where credit's due

From Mr A. M. Stubbs

Sir, I can effortlessly surpass your correspondent (January 10) who noted banal credits on films. During Christmas we were treated to a letter explaining the working terms and conditions of a local company which was signed: "Executive Assistant to the Deputy Plumber". Yours faithfully, A. M. STUBBS, Down Court Cottage, Matching Road, Hatfield Heath, Hertfordshire, January 12.

From Mr Brian Garcia Sir, How churlish to seek to deny screen credits to all those hard-working individuals associated with a film production. Let us apply such generosity to other areas. This letter was dictated by... Brian Garcia typed by... Katie O'Malley photocopied by Marjorie Prendegast faxed by... Caron Deans Yours sincerely, BRIAN GARCIA, 29 Clarendon Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, January 16.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

January 18: The Princess Royal this afternoon attended a Conference Luncheon given by the National Economic Development Office on "Working For Tomorrow - Tourism and Leisure" at Lancaster House, SW1.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, received Major-General G. R. Ockers (Representative Colonel, Commandant) on completion of his tenure.

KENSINGTON PALACE

January 18: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Relate National Maritime Guidance, attended a counsellors' training course at Herbert Gray College, Little Church Street, Rugby.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was entertained at Dinner this evening by His Excellency The High Commissioner for India and Shrimati Rasgotra at 9 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8.

Mrs Charles Vyvyan and Major The Lord Napier and Erskine were in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, National Asthma Campaign, was present today at the first Council Meeting at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, received Major-General G. R. Ockers (Representative Colonel, Commandant) on completion of his tenure.

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FELICITY YOUETT

Interior design, sculpture and stage costume

The artist Felicity Youett, died of cancer in London on January 12, aged 45. She was born in Coventry on November 28, 1944. In 1965 she went to study painting at the Royal College of Art. There she began to be interested in unorthodox materials - first in painted plywood, then satin, fake fur, pink foam rubber - and began to create bright sculptures of wrapped sweets, fruit slices or toothbrushes.

For Felicity Youett, no colour existed in isolation, and she would expound on the ways in which colours were affected by those around them or by different illumination or textures. She made many cushions and quilted wallhangings which, while they displayed her absorption with the enhancement of domestic spaces, were also highly sophisticated visual essays on the subjects of colour, shape and shadow.

Advertising agencies, photographers and the shops of "Swinging London", including Mr Freedom and Bill Gibb, began to use her talents. Both practical and tenacious she belonged to the "Suck it and See" school of design and could turn up to a job brimming with solutions to problems previously considered hopelessly intractable. In 1972 she made a life size cow and megalithic soft sculptures of British products, including sausages, strawberries and a pint of beer, for an exhibition in Paris to mark Britain's entry into the Common Market. In the mid seventies, with Roger Dean she created stage costumes and backdrops for the rock band Yes. In 1986 she was involved in the restoration of the interior of the Whitehall Theatre, and in 1987 created costumes for a musical entitled *Food for the charity Kids UK*.

She decorated the interiors of various West End restaurants, including Bertolotti's and Cafe Fish, raising their Christmas decorations to an art form - her last year completed this year despite her illness.

Perhaps because of her Twiggy-like slenderness, Felicity Youett designed and made many of her own clothes, and also wore second hand clothes, prefiguring the cult surrounding the Kings Road shop Granny Takes a Trip. It was she who invented Hot Pants.

She was among the first to migrate to East London in search of inexpensive studio space. And in the 1970s she joined with other Wapping artists to hold studio open days, exhibiting satin hedges and outside hyacinths (she was a frequent visitor to the Covent Garden flower market), together with piles of satin rocks, sky scrapers, penguins and more abstract hangings.

Her luxurious ammonite and shell cushions were widely copied by commercial interior designers, although without her exacting eye for the essential nature of the object imitated.

A great originator, Felicity Youett had a satirical sense of humour. She leaves many friends, including Terry Bullett, with whom she lived and with whom, in 1988, she had a son, Spencer.



Felicity Youett, in clothes of her own design, with two of her artworks

CHARLES HERNU

Going down with the Rainbow Warrior

Charles Hernu, the controversial French Defence Minister who was obliged to resign in the wake of an international outcry over the sinking of the *Rainbow Warrior* in July 1985 as the Greenpeace vessel was sailing to protest against French nuclear testing in the Pacific, died on January 17, aged 66.

He suffered a heart attack while addressing a pro-Armenian rally in Villeurbanne, the city near Lyons where he had long been Mayor.

Hernu was a prominent figure in the French Socialist party essentially because of a more than 20-year-old personal friendship with President Mitterrand. It was Hernu, it was often said, who had brought the French Socialist intellectual and politician round to understanding the left, in power, must adopt an almost Catholic orthodoxy over defence policy, and particularly France's independent nuclear deterrent, if it was to avoid serious and damaging trouble with top representatives of the armed forces.

The burly, bearded son of a French gendarme had all the obvious working-class qualifications but after four and a half years as Defence minister it was the more the French orthodox left who treated him with suspicion than rightwing officers in the armed services. Many on the left had ill digested Hernu's realism about the army's famous silent role in politics, judging he had become more of a cat's paw.

Hernu finally resigned in late September 1985, together with the French admiral who headed the DGSE intelligence service, after M. Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, decided at President Mitterrand's bidding, the minister should take the blame for French agents' blowing up the *Rainbow Warrior* in Auckland Harbour, causing the death of a Greenpeace photographer.

It was "a bad decision," M. Fabius told the nation on television. Protesting still his innocence, Hernu maintained senior officers had "hidden the truth from me." David Lange, then New Zealand's Prime Minister, suggested France had reaped a whirlwind because it had not accepted from the start the "wrongness" of its agents' acts.

Born in Quimper, Brittany, on July 3, 1923, Hernu moved with his family to Lyons, joining the resistance in that city during the Second World War. He had a brief career in journalism but soon went into politics and in 1956 was elected a Mende-France deputy. Hernu joined Francois Mitterrand's efforts to rebuild the Socialist party from 1971 onwards and became its chief defence expert.

After the May 1981 Socialist victory Hernu became Defence Minister and announced he was temporarily suspending the ongoing nuclear tests on the Mururoa atoll. But within a few days, following evident pressure from service and scientific chiefs, Hernu reversed himself and from then on became a fearless defender of such testing regardless of mounting protests from foreign governments or ecological groups.

Hernu increased France's defence spending, allocating to the country's nuclear deterrent some 30 per cent of the total defence funds under a five-year programme from 1983. As minister, he also encouraged France's worldwide arms sales. Hernu supported Britain publicly during the Falklands War but the effect was soured somewhat when Argentina used to good effect the Exocet missiles it had obtained from Paris. Hernu flew to Ndjamena on behalf of President Mitterrand to support French troops in Chad when that state was threatened by Libya.

Hernu was re-elected triumphantly in the March 1986 elections as voters showed their steady approval of the man notwithstanding the *Rainbow Warrior* affair.

Unfortunately, it is unlikely that pure methanol could be used in practice. It burns with an invisible flame - not a good safety feature - and cars would have problems starting in the cold.

When the simulation was run with a more practical alternative (a mix of 85 per cent methanol with petrol), the potential reductions in peak ozone levels were halved.

In the new Science paper, A G Russell from the University of Pittsburgh and colleagues discuss their computer simulation of smog formation in the Los Angeles basin, using climate data for August 30 to September 1, 1982, when air pollution was more severe

above, and a massive build-up of ozone smog ensued.

To combat the problem, both the State of California and the Federal Government have been promoting the use of "clean" motor fuels, such as methanol, also known as methyl alcohol or "wood alcohol".

Unlike petrol, the by-products of methanol combustion are less likely to produce ozone when reacting with sunlight. But methanol use could lead instead to increased concentrations of another chemical, formaldehyde. Some research has suggested that a twice-to-methanol would have little effect on ozone concentrations if smog-forming conditions persist for a number of days, and that the increased emission of formaldehyde would nullify any beneficial effects.

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SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

Cramming it all in

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

In the week of the UN Security Council meetings on Cambodia, ITV's *This Week* went back last night to the killing fields with two good stories, neither of which it quite had the time to tell. A decade ago, it was a *This Week* team with the reporter Julian Marryon which first revealed the full horror of the Khmer Rouge massacres, and it was that team which helped Var Hong to escape to England and start a new life with her second husband, the aid worker Robert Ashe, whom she first met in a Cambodian refugee centre.

Ten years on, Marryon's team took her back to Cambodia to search successfully for her blind mother and to verify the details of her first husband's murder by the Khmer Rouge. That alone would have made a compelling 30-minute documentary, but the programme also wanted to deal with the new threat of a regrouped Khmer Rouge, who are once again on the brink of power.

For this reason, it failed to explain some crucial details of precisely how Var found her mother. Nor did it make clear what in the Cambodian national character allows its people to give the certifiably insane Pol Pot not one, but two, chances to murder the entire population.

If ever there was a case for a two-part, or maybe even a spin-off series, it was surely here.

Earlier in the day, *Press Gang* came back to mid-afternoon Central network ITV for a second series: having altogether missed the first, and expecting a conventional teenage serial about a school newspaper, I was unprepared for the remarkably high level of writing and playing, one which would not have disgraced *Law Grant*.

Meanwhile, over on 40 Minutes (BBC 2) Frank Cvetanovich had another fly-on-the-wall documentary, this one about Mr and Mrs Roy Sackling, who run their own airline out of Cambridge, having been banned from Ipswich Airport for making a nasty mess of the grass runway. They do all their own in-flight cooking and vacuum-clean the plane twice daily. It was all very reassuring and English. If you have to make business trips to Amsterdam, better, perhaps, to be looked after by a pilot and stewardess who also own the plane.

John Russell Taylor on the miserable life and surprisingly affirmative work of Arshile Gorky, Armenia's most well known artist

Hot-line to the subconscious

There is a certain fortuitous topicality about the major exhibition devoted to Arshile Gorky at the Whitechapel Art Gallery until March 25: Armenia is unfortunately very much in the news these days, and Gorky is undeniably the most famous of all Armenian artists.

Being Armenian is not, of course, the thing he is most famous for: he is (correctly) remembered as one of the leading figures of New York Abstract Expressionism, and he did leave Armenia (the part which is now in Turkey) at the age of 16, shedding along the way his unmistakably Armenian name, Vosdanik Adoian, in favour of a noncommittal pseudonym which led many to suppose, if they considered the matter at all, that he was simply Russian.

Many accepted terms of art history are strangely inapposite if one considers their root meaning. But the term "Abstract Expressionism" is peculiarly appropriate to Gorky, indicating both the non-figurative surface of most of his work and the turbulent emotions which underlie it.

Gorky's life was in fact fairly miserable, from its early days in Armenia under almost continuous persecution (his mother died of starvation in his arms in 1919) right through to its gloomy end when, finally, desperately ill from cancer, coping with a failed marriage and having his painting arm incapacitated through a car accident, he took his own life in 1948, at the age of 44.

Given all this, it seems curious that the emotions informing Gorky's work, though certainly turbulent, are seldom if ever negative and depressing. In fact, often in his later work the British viewer may be reminded of a very different artist, Ceri Richards, especially the symbolic, semi-abstract compositions. This is largely because of the shapes which inhabit Gorky's paintings, rounded and voluptuous, suggesting hearts and birds and

flames and waves, and the force that through the green fuse drives the flower.

In the present show, which runs from some of the earliest known works, like the "Landscape" of 1927-28, to some of the very last, we can begin to see where these characteristic shapes came from. Gorky's career would seem as perfectly consistent in its progression from representation to abstraction as that of Kandinsky, gradually generalizing and eliminating detail until all figurative reference vanishes altogether. It would, if it were not for a curious interlude in the mid-Thirties when Gorky seems for the moment to have fallen under the spell of Picasso and to be replacing the graceful, rounded forms and soft, delicate colours of his early portraits, landscapes and still-lives with spiky formalizations, combining a variety of viewpoints, and abrupt colour contrasts.

However, this phase is temporary and never total: alongside the Picasso-like works he continues to paint in his early style right up until, around 1942, he arrives at the mature synthesis. Most of the later, abstract works have elaborate and fanciful titles, such as "Hanging Good Hope Road", "Landscape Table", "The Betrothal" and "The Plough and the Song".

Using such clues as they afford, one may guess that this shape is a human figure, that is an horizon, the other is a tree or a vase of flowers. But they remain only guesses, useful if they point the way to the buried emotion, distracting if they turn each picture into a puzzle.

To appreciate Gorky one has to keep one's imagination on a loose rein, staying open to the slightest flicker/flutter of suggestion and never trying to tie things down too firmly to literal interpretation. Armenian commentators have clarified a lot by referring us to the Armenian illuminations he knew as a child, the resources of Armenian folklore and so on.

But finally the work has to make it on its own.

This is where Gorky asserts himself as a master of 20th-century painting: he does not so much refer to myths as make myths, and few artists have ever seemed to have a more effective hot-line to some kind of Jungian collective unconscious, where these shapes speak directly to us, and move us, even if we would be hard put to it to say why and how.

Gorky's is obviously a very effective way of abstracting from the reality of a figure or a landscape. Fortunately it is not the only way, as a number of artists currently working in Britain, and currently on show in London, will rapidly convince us. Take John Varley, for instance, who is showing ten new works at the Lisson Gallery until February 10. His work sometimes seems like a crazy fusion of Rowland Hilder and Andy Warhol. What he does to begin with is paint, in black and white, dozens of small panels of uniform size depicting in a traditional English-painter style various corners of the Lancashire village where he lives.

He would hardly be showing in such a bastion of the avant-garde as the Lisson Gallery if that were all he did. He then combines them into very large compartmental compositions, so that similar views become almost like a Warhol serial work — or an old-fashioned Polyphoto contact sheet, if you prefer. The large compositions in this show are further unified by having black or white paint dribbled over them, and other elements added which cross the boundaries from one unit to another. The results are extraordinary: one is constantly aware of the tug between the urge to move in closer and decipher the individual sections and the urge to stand back and take in the whole as one richly textured abstract.



"Woman's head (portrait of Akaki)", circa 1936, one of Gorky's few figurative works

Jeremy Kingston

The Caucasian Chalk Circle Sadler's Wells

narrower family bounds: the tabloids would headline it as "Missing Heir in Tug-of-Love Heart-break".

In a production first seen last year's Edinburgh Festival, the young company are signally better at singing, their speciality, than acting. The musicians also give good value, although nothing in Stephen Warbeck's score equals the fascinating opening moments when Zi Lan Liao, a student from Liverpool, gives a swirling solo on her *cheng*. This exotic instrument can be described as a harp stretched into an oblong and laid flat on a board curved like an upturned miniature punt. She sweeps her fingers over the strings as though rippling the surface of a cattle trough, and high clear notes come twinkling from it.

The songs in the show are plainer stuff, chants set to march rhythms with a little syncopation

as ornament, and the lost opportunity for another *cheng* display is a pity. But the singing is strong and articulate, whether delivered by the chorus standing in a bold proletarian line facing the audience or by a single singer, notably Byron Calmonson's Azdak, giving ironic point to his songs of abasement.

Unfortunately, the complexity of Azdak's character is seriously diminished by cutting, and elsewhere the scenes that hold most interest in this uneven production are those that demonstrate the simplest emotions: Matt Banks personifying the honest soldier, Jude Law a bespeckled male, bobbing his head as he attempts to ingratiate himself with all parties. Naoko Mori offers the proper look of dogged goodness as Grusha but until her passionate downstage outbursts at the trial is often hard to understand.

Far too many of the performers seem daunted by the size of the theatre and have not been shown how to raise the voice without squawking, and this suggests that a more appropriate choice of show for the company would contain more songs and nothing like this amount of shouting.

Astonishing smile of bravery

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

Hedda Gabler King's Head

No doubt about it, Elizabeth Quin is an astonishing person. Throughout her 41 years she has been profoundly deaf, and for most of them she has been mute. She taught herself to speak only after winning a major acting award for *Children of a Lesser God*, in which she communicated only with her hands. Later, in 1984, she played an incoherent stroke victim in a forgettable West End play, *Fighting Chance*; but the rest, until now, has been silence.

Until now. Last night she launched into mainstream acting with a vengeance, tackling a role that has taxed, stretched and to some extent eluded such actresses as Glenda Jackson, Maggie Smith and Janet Suzman. Indeed, "mainstream" is too placid a metaphor under the circumstances. Imagine a fresh, if promising, swimmer attempting to make it from Dover to Calais and back again in choppy seas, and you can see the challenge Quin has set herself.

Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, helpfully mouldering in a drab world and an

even duller marriage, must be one of the hardest of all characters to embody. She is variously fine, cruel, idealistic, petty-minded, fastidious, proud, witty, weak, strong, conventional, unconventional, and much more besides. Jackson was too grim, Smith too wry and, as I recall, Suzman too cool.

Quin looks radiant, even dazzling, as she stalks the stage smiling her big white smile. No wonder Timothy Bentick's Tessa is so abjectly besotted with her. But there is no denying she is still vocally uncertain and lacking in variety. Moreover, she expects that smile to express more than one smile could ever reasonably do: exasperation, defiance, amuse-

ment, malice and even despair. In so far as there is an overall interpretation, it is that, as Hedda says, she is horribly bored. Hence Quin's raucy pacing, her irritated way with the sofa cushion, and the frustration she gently projects when confronted with her dreary husband and his posh aunt. But of Hedda's desperation for power, of her fascination with destruction, and of other such dark matters, Quin has nothing to tell.

The rest of Rena Dow's production, crammed on to a stage rather too short and shallow for a full set of the *Enchiridion Britannica*, is uneven. Richard O'Callaghan, more Babyface than roaring boy, seems miscast as that small-town Dionysus, Lovborg; but Bentick is as comically true a Tessa as I have seen — a ramped, genial innocent confronted with emotional cliffs and chasms without map, rope or compass, and wonderfully unaware, not just of his deficiencies, but of the very existence of such geography.

Such a magnificent conclusion

CONCERTS

Paul Griffiths

BBC SO/Berio Barbican Hall

Berliozmania is over, but surely not for long. Wednesday night's closing concert left us looking keenly forward to his next visit to London, if only so that Richard Loe can learn how to pronounce his name. The arts minister was there to present him with the *Evening Standard* Opera Award, in a ceremony that provided an interlude of pantomime between the two towering works on the official programme.

We began with *Passaggio* (1961-2), Berio's first encounter with his principal writer-collaborator (scarcely librettist) Edoardo Sanguineti, and also his first operatic venture. The work is a short monodrama for soprano, like Schoenberg's *Erwartung*, except that here the soloist is the victim not of her own delirium but of the

roles projected onto her by literary and theatrical traditions, by history, and most dramatically by the audience, among whom are planted several groups of treacherous actors and singers.

In the early Sixties, this perhaps seemed a neat way of provoking the public: showing up the folly of their antagonism by voicing it for them. But because the interventions are meticulously crafted (requiring two conductors for each group, besides Berio on

the rostrum), they become part of the work.

Thus, *Passaggio* can be seen as an early essay in the musical inclusion of speech that Berio went on to accomplish in most of his later vocal works, including not least *Cora*, the slowly turning world of ravishing vocal-instrumental textures that closed this concert.

Passaggio also contains the seeds of so much else. There is the black sound of a predominantly wind and percussion orchestra, looking forward to *Labirinto II* and even to parts of *Offanin*, which must count as the major discovery of this festival.

And besides this there is the theatrical irony, so that the entire play is a play within a play, as in the full-scale opera, *Un re in ascolto*, for which the composer was receiving his award.

This partly staged performance was dominated by Luisa Castellani as the nameless heroine, at first a bit frail but then using her fragility and naturalness to help make the point. The BBC Singers and Symphony Orchestra provided the sonic decor, bleak but beautiful in a way only Berio could manage, and students from the Guildhall School were excellent as the whisperers and louder opponents.

There can have been few other disasters in the hall.

Passionate and pure

Stephen Pettitt

Tallis Scholars/Phillips St John's, Smith Square

The eight cool, pure voices which on Tuesday made up the Tallis Scholars were doing more than merely giving a concert. They were also consolidating an important evolution in taste which happened in the Eighties. It is due largely to their work, inspired by the passionate commitment of their director, Peter Phillips, over the past decade, that so many are able to find emotional and spiritual reward in Renaissance music today.

This programme of late 15th-century north European polyphony moreover illustrated an often ignored fact, that composers of the age showed personal characteristics in their music in much the same way as, say, Haydn and Mozart. It began with Johannes Regis's *Salve sponsa*, an apparently typically ornate work full of complex rhythms and markedly variegated strands which spoke strongly of a medieval influence, of sheer imposing magnificence. Yet it still had an element of something deeply personal in it, as did Antoine Brumel's similarly rhythmically jagged but tauter *Magnificat*, a piece graced with

constantly changing voice-combinations which nevertheless works towards a feeling of climax. Both works the Tallis Scholars attacked with the right blend of vigour and sensitivity, achieving an exquisite balance.

With Jacob Obrecht's *Ave regina caelorum*, scored for lower voices only, we entered a different world. Here the emphasis is not so much on rhythm as on sonority and gracefully shaped melody. It was given with what one can only describe as a gentle voluptuousness. Jean Mouton's *Ave fuit prima salus*, on the other hand, is a piece of greater urgency, with a more tenable sense of onward development within the framework of a similar basic set of ground rules.

The same composer's *Nesciens mater* takes contrapuntal severity, you might think, to its limits; it is a rigidly structured, complex canon in eight parts. In fact it is also a highly emotional yet placid masterpiece, shaped and paced quite beautifully by these singers.

It is more difficult to mould into a satisfactory whole the complex sequence of movements, short and long, ethereal and dark, which make up Pierre de la Rue's *Missa pro defunctis*. This, too, the Tallis Scholars managed, not least by creating an atmosphere of rapt spirituality.

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THE habitat SALE

A STOREHOUSE COMPANY

Teenagers' night out

Richard Morrison

LMP/Parrott Queen Elizabeth Hall

Bold thoughts here from the traditionalist management of the London Mozart Players: a programme of music written entirely by teenagers. Admittedly, having Schubert, Mendelssohn, Mozart and Bizet as the chosen youths hardly constituted an act of recklessness, but it did concentrate the mind on the nature of youthful prodigy.

In composition and performance, the prime virtue of the child genius is usually that of an instinctive creative impulse, uncomplicated by guile, by doubts, by ambiguity, by tragedy — in short, by adulthood. There are musicians who never experience anything more powerful than their instincts as children. It seems hard on Mendelssohn, for instance, to say that he peaked at 17; nevertheless, as the burden of being Queen Victoria's favourite oratorio composer closed in on him, he never recaptured that artless, perfect innocence of his *Midsummer Night's Dream* overture.

But symphonic music feeds on adult ambiguities: in general it is a combative, argumentative, questioning sort of art-form. Listening on Wednesday night to Bizet's Symphony in C, one could revel in the brilliant imagination which was revealed — the curling chromatic oboe-tunes which seem to lead

straight to the *Carmen* Habanera; the crazy drones and modal melodies of the Scherzo — and yet lament the lack of experience which permitted this raw inspiration to stay raw.

Or, in the cases of Mozart's Symphony No 27 and Schubert's Symphony No 2, one heard a massive surging of youthful energy bouncing against the dictates of outmoded styles or forms: voices of undeniable genius, temporarily detained by the constraints of tired conventions.

With this array of teenage exuberance, Andrew Parrott made his London debut as Associate Conductor of the LMP — and it was exactly that quality of tireless dash which he emphasized, especially with a marvellously gutsy whist through the Mendelssohn overture. With its bubbling accentuation and remarkable pace, this interpretation was far more a prelude to impish trickery than the usual soporific introduction to some enchanted evening.

There were minor accidents later in the evening: the speed at which Parrott scorched through Bizet, in particular, placed a strain on the intonation of the LMP fiddles. But blemishes are allowed in performances of this spirit and vigour. Parrott's all-round musicianship has too long been obscured (at least in London) by his particular skills in researching and performing Baroque music. He is probably never in for long enough to make a good Bruckner conductor, but the rest of the 19th century awaits him.

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THE ARTS/ROCK

Steve Turner examines the influence of Anthony Burgess's novel, *A Clockwork Orange*, on pop musicians

A hanging note of discord

Anthony Burgess is feeling a malenky-bit poorly about hearing the music for the stage version of his 1962 novel *A Clockwork Orange*. "I'm a bit scared of it because my original intention was to use the music of Beethoven," he says. "It was appropriate because that was the music the hero Alex likes. He rather despises the other stuff."

Alex is the teenage thug of Burgess's future world who is thrilled by acts of violence and who is in turn "cured" of his evil bias through aversion therapy. The "other stuff" he despises is rock music. In the case of the new RSC production, directed by Ron Daniels, the music has been composed by Bono and The Edge, of the group U2.

Burgess doesn't find "a great deal" in rock music. He says it is not "big enough" for him, an opinion he attributes to his misanthropic rather than to his 72 years. But, unfortunately for him, because of *A Clockwork Orange* he has for 25 years attracted the attention of rock musicians.

There have been groups which have wanted to stage rock operas based on the book, groups which have named themselves after the book or characters in it (the Droogs, Heaven 17) and groups, like the Addicts from Ipswich, whose image of white boiler suits tucked into large boots and black bowler hats, was based on the film Alex.

In creating Alex, the anti-social teenager whose Anglo-Russian slang *nadsat* distances him from the adult world and whose only moments of joy come through loud music, impersonal sex, drugs and violence, Burgess thought he was portraying a nightmare of evil. But in the changing moral climate of the Sixties, Alex and his droogs began to look more like heroes to a generation who were becoming less respectful of authority and more fascinated by the "cheap



The Rolling Stones' hip Sixties malchicks looking for a bad image

thrills" which authorities sought to curb.

To Andrew Loog Oldham — in 1964 the youthful manager of the Rolling Stones — *A Clockwork Orange* embodied the aggressive and anti-social attitude he wanted to foster as an image for his group. "The Rolling Stones," he had boasted on the cover of their debut album, "are more than just a group — they are a way of life."

Along with Mick Jagger, Keith Richards and a driver called Reg the Butcher, who had been hired to exert muscle, he started living out the droogish fantasy. "We went through the whole *Clockwork Orange* thing together," Richards later said.

Oldham even planned to purchase the film rights and use *A Clockwork Orange* as the Rolling Stones' bad boy response to the Beatles' *A Hard Day's Night*. "The

time wasn't right though," says Burgess. "We were not ready for nudity and rape on the screen."

For the group's second album, Oldham composed a lengthy sleeve note written in imitation *nadsat*, referring to himself and the Stones as "six hip malchicks" and urging the penniless record shop browser to find a blind man, "knock him on the head, steal his wallet and low and behold you have the loot if you put in the boot, good, another one sold!"

This passage was later removed by the record company after protests from organizations for the blind and a complaint from a member of the House of Lords to the Director of Public Prosecutions, calling it "a deliberate incitement to criminal action."

The film of *A Clockwork Orange*, eventually made by Stanley Kubrick in 1971, contained no



U2's Bono and The Edge: a different perspective, against nihilism

rock stars and no rock music. The soundtrack was mostly Beethoven, Purcell and Rossini, some of it adapted for synthesizer. But, with its images of high-rise urban desolation and its evocation of a futuristic youth culture, it had a unique appeal to rock fans.

David Bowie, then writing *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, was among the first to be affected, dressing in a modified droog costume and coming on stage to the synthesized sounds of Beethoven's Ninth, Alex's favourite piece of music.

In the mid-Eighties the film — only available in Britain on pirate

videos — inspired a youth cult centred on UK Today, a fashion stall in Kensington Market where the bowler hats, brooches, steel braces and designer cod pieces on sale were all based on the *Clockwork Orange* uniform.

The cult was organized, says one of the leaders, as a reaction to deteriorating values. The aim was to promote "self-respect and self-pride rather than self-destruction" and the adoption of the droog costume was meant to be subversive. "We wanted to show that you could be firm and strong without being violent and perverse."

Among the stall's customers, the controversial EMI band Sigue



Sigue Sigue Sputnik: aggressively promoting violence and mayhem

Sigue Sigue Sputnik actively promoted the image of menace and mayhem. They used the *Clockwork Orange* soundtrack to whip their audience into what they called "a violent state", used the film as a reference point in both their songs and promotion, and opened their debut single with a shout of "ultra-violence! ultra-violence!"

But it was the punks of the mid-Seventies who came closest to living out the nightmare of *A Clockwork Orange*. Johnny Rotten and Sid Vicious of the Sex Pistols, with their love of spitting at "pauetic" people, their dismissal of love and their celebration of aimlessness, appeared to have been modelled on Alex and his sickle Dick.

It disturbed Burgess that *A Clockwork Orange* has largely been misunderstood; that it has been taken up as a model for stylish loutishness rather than as a warning about the nature of good and evil and the responsibility on us to choose which we follow.

"Without being pretentious, it is what I would call a theological book, in that it posits that you have to have evil if you are going to have good. If you only have one, there is no choice," he said.

Bono and The Edge are the least droogish musicians so far to become identified with *A Clockwork Orange*. Passionately against

violence and drug abuse, concerned by spiritual poverty, unemployment and aimlessness; they would no doubt spend hours talking with Alex but would never don bowlers and boots.

Yet, oddly enough, because of their Christian compassion, their view of *A Clockwork Orange* as a morality tale about the effect of starving the young of creative options, coincides with the author's intended message. Their reference point for the droogs has been the crack-dealing gangs and urban hip-hop culture of Los Angeles. Burgess's was the Teddy Boys and rockers of the late Fifties, whom he saw in Soho coffee bars. "I saw fairly clearly at that time," he says, "that the future was going to be plagued by a great deal of youthful energy that was not being trained in the direction of knowledge or creation and hence had to give itself over to destruction."

The RSC production he sees as a way of putting a cap on rock's pursuit of his project. "I don't like the book all that much," he says. "Unfortunately it has pursued me for the past 30 years and goes on pursuing me. I hope that with this production I might be free of it."

A Clockwork Orange previews are from next Friday and it opens on February 6 at the Barbican Theatre

Adrian Dannatt reports on the French Government's efforts to promote local rock

One of President Mitterrand's most mocked cultural initiatives — the appointment last May of 27-year-old Bruno Lison as Minister for the Rock and Popular Music — has finally borne fruit. The French are now watching, either with amusement or bemusement, the first tangible signs of their government's new commitment to "Le Rock": a state-funded scheme which means, among other things, that Les Thugs have at last been given the opportunity to do their best, or their worst.

Les Thugs are one of 15 rock groups which have been invited to the final of the "Fonds d'Action et d'Initiative Rock". The 15 have been chosen by a panel of experts to represent the best of the new Gallic rock 'n' roll. As the selected stars for 1990, they are being given concerts throughout the year, plus management consultancy, media guidance, cash assistance of between 20,000 and 40,000 francs (£2,000-£4,000) and free publicity.

Jack Lang, the publicity-conscious French Minister of Culture, has always been concerned about pop culture. Traditionally-minded

Power to the people

(that is, traditionally xenophobic) Frenchmen have long felt that the tide of American pop culture is destroying Gallic tradition and language for the sake of Mid-Atlantic Attitude. The only problem is that France has a pitifully weak rock tradition. First of all Lang tried to impose a harsh quota on the amount of foreign music allowed on the radio — a hopeless idea, even though a similar decree does effectively limit the amount of American TV shown in France.

Unable to keep the English-speaking rock groups out, Lang set up a rock section for his Ministry of Culture, appointing Lison as "Minister Rock" to boost the French industry and give official recognition to rock as a worldwide entertainment business rather than some anti-social activity. The idea of a Minister for Rock may seem laughable, but no more so than the presence of the marketing career of Ron Jovi, or the multi-million industry based



Le ministre de Rock: Bruno Lison

around Dire Straits, is some sort of teenage snarl. The laudable aims of the enterprise, to raise local and international awareness of French popular music, and possibly also to generate a few genuine contenders for the international rock arena, are somewhat deflated, however,

by a glance at its first initiative. Out of a short list of 700, whittled down to 300, the chosen 15 bands read like a pastiche of every joke ever made about French rock: an 'Alla Alla' of surreal culture. Beside Les Thugs, one has to contend with the chilling embarrassment of groups called Susan and the Visitors, Les Roadrunners and — though it taxes credulity — something called Dominic Sonic, a name surely brewed up by the team responsible for Spinal Tap.

There is also the incidental pleasure of discovering that John Asherton, founder of Les Frigos (doubtless you recall 1989's classic, "Get Friggy"), has been tipped for the top.

Other Ministry schemes, such as the creation of new concert halls, alternative magazines and TV programmes, may well do their bit to lift the spirit of the French pop industry. Yet it is hard to believe that anything can overcome the power of the English-speaking market. Or at least not until there is a Minister for the suppression of things called Dominic Sonic.

BOOK REVIEW

David Toop

There was a time, not so long ago, when it was possible to pretend that popular music did not exist. Now its sounds, images and gossip are so ubiquitous that they form a subliminal chatter which speaks to us whether we like it or not.

The discourse of pop and rock has grown accordingly. Academic books have made a small but significant contribution to this Babel of noise since the early Seventies and the most consistent voice from the academic sector has belonged to Simon Frith. As editor of a new collection of essays which fill, broadly speaking, into the category of rock sociology, Frith admits that, "rock critics despise rock academics, rock musicians despise rock critics, rock fans despise each other."

What is clear from *Facing the Music* is that a meaningful interpretation of rock music emerges only through a complementary reading of all these warring factions. Rock fans lack objectivity, rock musicians lack humility and

Praise be to hype

importance in the larger picture of entertainment media, has irrevocably changed.

His contrasting models of an outmoded career pyramid — from pub gigs to superstar — as against the new talent pool of a mainstream core picking off potential international packaging fodder from a floating outer ring of new ideas, is not completely convincing; however, it does account for the sensation that the excitement of popular music are increasingly rare and marginal, as the mainstream becomes an expression of corporate marketing.

If there is a weakness in these essays, it is the avoidance of music as sound. Music criticism is intensely problematic by comparison with social histories, demographic analysis and the critique of hair cuts and trouser widths, but the pessimism that settles on the reader by the conclusion of the book is incomplete without it.

Facing the Music, edited by Simon Frith, published by Mandarin, £4.50.

ALBUMS

David Sinclair

Jungle Brothers: Done by the Forces of Nature (Warner Bros 28072-1)

After the recent wave of over-hyped, murderously up-tight West Coast gangster rap, what a pleasure it is to lock in to the kinder perspectives of Harlem's Jungle Brothers. Like De La Soul, with whom they are constantly bracketed and who feature here on the track "Doin' our own Dang", the Jungle Brothers have broadened the emotional scope of rap to include warmth, humanity, humour and variety, but without betraying the propulsive rhythmic minimalism and proud black attitude that lies at the music's (hard) core. Funky but friendly is the watchword here.

The beats are grainy, old-fashioned affairs. On "Acknowledge Your Own History", a persuasive assertion of the need to maintain a black cultural identity within a predominantly white society, no attempt has been made to disguise the crackles and scratches on the record from which the rhythm track has originally been sampled.

The title song is an eco-rap that hymns the wonders of hot, baked cake along with "Rainbows, volcanoes, waterfalls, native calls/ Avalanches, tree with branches/

Friendly beats from the jungle

B-boys in their favourite stances". The jungle motif provides a constant strong thematic link between the African motherland and the modern American urban sprawl. "All decked out in my tiger-skin suit/Hair braided up and my Jungle Brother boots/Hopped on the vine and swung through the city/Today's ya day said the neighbourhood gypsy."

Although the album does not boast the melodic ingenuity which distinguishes De La Soul's work, and is therefore unlikely to furnish the same flush of hit singles, it is informed throughout by a distinctive *jazz de vivre* that quickly works its way under the skin. Best of all is the infectious good humour of "Feelin' Alright", a surreal, feel-good narrative hooked up to an irresistible tug-of-the-elbow beat in a combination so sharp and sprightly that it never fails to lift the spirits.

Warren Zevon: Transverse City (Virgin America VUSLP 9)

Despite his rather bookish air and smaller-than-life persona, Warren Zevon is blessed with a characteristically deep, husky voice and a knack for writing the kind of muscular, rootsy tunes, which in the hands of a more aggressive performer like John Cougar



Jungle Brothers: rapping with warmth, humanity, humour and variety

Mellencamp, might well have formed the basis for a multi-million dollar career. This ambitious but disappointing collection finds him bogged down with a vaguely futuristic, greenish-hued, memorable brooding drama of "Boom Boom Santini" or the wry, personal touches of "Detox Mansion". *Transverse City* is rather like a laid back, West Coast version of Lou Reed's *New York*, where instead of budding on the brink of extinction on the Dirty Boulevard the characters are to be found flailing in traffic jams ("Gridlock") or suffering soul-debilitating shopping experiences ("Down in the Mall").

Not enough of the songs hit the emotional mark. Zevon needs to readjust his sights to something closer to his heart.

Loop: A Glided Eternity (Situation Two SITU 27)

A couple of weeks ago I received a white label copy of Loop's album which comprises two 12-inch discs designed to be played at 45-rpm. In the absence of any instructions I listened to the whole masterwork at 33-and-a-third, and while my notes were peppered with words like "mordant", "glum" and "grisy sound" it did not occur to me to change the speed.

I am happy to report that it sounds better at 45-rpm, but must

regretfully conclude that Loop's penchant for utterly formless arrangements of endlessly repeated, grungy guitar riffs, battered down by a clanky overloaded bass and coloured by the merest hint of an airy vocal wafting by in the distance is essentially a load of artful bawwash.

Cat Stevens: The Very Best of Cat Stevens (Island 840 148-2)

Despite a sizeable tally of hits, including a US No 1 album (*Catch Bull at Four*) Cat Stevens is one of those lapsed performers whose mail seems to have become covered over very swiftly.

The bedst balladeer turned Muslim fundamentalist, undoubtedly had a commanding timbre to his voice and a knack with a sentimental lyric and a folksy melody. This collection, which focuses primarily on his hit singles, includes "Lady D'Arbanville", "Matthew and Son", "Moonshadow", "Wild World" and his version of "The First Cut is the Deepest", better known by other artists, but arguably the only standard which he wrote.

Presumably the glaring absence of "I'm Gonna Get Me a Gun" (No 6 in 1967) reflects sensitivity to Stevens's somewhat reckless public endorsement of Ayatollah Khomeini's *fatwa* against Salman Rushdie.

WEEKEND GIGS

Compiled by David Toop, Rose Rouse and David Sinclair

JAH WOBBLE: The reggae-influenced bass playing of Jah Wobble was one of the most striking aspects of Public Image Limited, the group formed by John Lydon after the collapse of the Sex Pistols. Since then, Wobble has wobbled from one variant of post-punk, jazz-rock-fusion, world music to another. *Marquee, 105 Charing Cross Rd, London WC2 (01-437 8603). Tonight, 7pm, £5.*

THE ROCKERS: This female duo helped to break the male hegemony of British rap but they

have tended to suffer a credibility problem thanks to their uneasy balance of commercial pop and hard-core hip-hop. *The Fridge, Epsom Hill, London SW2 (01-326 5100). Tomorrow, 10pm, £5.*

ORZ: A new group led by Larry Stabbins, who will be familiar to those unfamiliar with jazz as one half of the driving force behind Working Week. Stabbins may be one of the best tenor saxophonists in the country, but this has never prevented him from working in some very accessible settings. *Dingwalls, Camden Lock, London, NW1 (01-267 4867). Sunday, 1pm, £3.50.*

HAVANA 3AM: Bass player Paul Simonon is the last member of the

Clash to come out of the traps with his own project. His new group has been whipping up a storm on tour with Big Audio Dynamite, and is apparently something of a post-punk/Latin hybrid. *Borderline, Orange Yard, off Mansette St, London WC2 (01-497 2261). Tuesday and Wednesday, 8pm, £5.*

ENERGY ORCHARD: Blue-collar Belfast rock band with serious intentions. Primary influence is stated to be Van Morrison, but they sound at times more like a caricature version of U2. Debut single "Belast" released this week. *Belast Polytechnic, Colindale Ave (0272 556261). Tonight, 8pm, £1.50. Cardiff University, Park Place*

(0222 396421). Tomorrow, 8pm, £2 (Students only). University of Surrey, Guildford (0483 571281). Sunday, 8pm, free (Students only). University of Kent, Rutherford College, Canterbury (0227 765224). Monday, 8.30pm, £2.

RED LORRY YELLOW LORRY: Last September's *Blow found* the Lornes adding some surprisingly tuneful colourings to their mournful, clumpy Goth-rock sound, but their live show remains an over-driven rhaps. *Marquee, 105 Charing Cross Rd, London WC2 (01-437 8603). Tomorrow, 7pm, £5.*

UT: Three women who have a black sense of humour, who like to play aggressive noise games.

Coming out of New York's New Wave scene. The Falcon, London NW1. (01-485-3834). Tomorrow, 8pm, £3.00.

THE MYSTERY GIRLS: This band, who are not girls and have yet to receive any recognition, were playing at being the New York Dolls with backing tapes five years ago. Now they seem to be going for an excitable R & B sound. *The Greyhound, London W6. (01-385-0256). Tomorrow, 8pm, £5.*

CARTER THE UNSTOPPABLE SEX MACHINE: Oddly named, these two boys are quirkiness personified. British indie popsters. Dead pan, cynical and socially concerned. *Princess Charlotte, Leicester. (0533-563-956). Tomorrow, 8pm, £2.50.*

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WEEKEND INFORMATION SERVICE

Quest for Celtic roots



Romantic cachet: The Alarm (left to right), Eddie McDonald, Mike Peters, Dave Sharp and Nigel Twiss

In the wake of the 1987/8 "Celtic Folklore" tour, The Alarm has continued its quest for Celtic roots. The Welsh equivalent of Ireland's U2 and Scotland's Simple Minds. As well as playing several benefit concerts on behalf of the Welsh language press, the group released last year's Tony Visconti-produced album, *Change*, in both an English and a Welsh language edition. The preposterous video for the recent hit single, "A New South Wales", found lead singer Mike Peters leading the Morrisian Orpheus Male Voice Choir through the song's several rousing choruses, interact with footage of him wandering moodily among desolate valley landscapes scarred by the industrial tangle of old mining sites. Yet the music and the hairstyles seem, more than ever, the result of American influences, and indeed it is in America, where they recently toured with Bob Dylan, that the group concentrated its efforts for the best part of last year. Aside from its romantic cachet, the quest for Celtic roots is thus a bit of a red herring. For, in the nine years since the band was convened in Rhyl, North Wales, these local lads have progressed from post-

punk rabble-rousers into a different kind of streamlined, international mix. Tonight, Music Hall, Aberdeen (0224 44122); tomorrow, Barrow-in-Furness (01226 44122); Monday, Newcastle City Hall (031 226 7010); Tuesday, Newcastle City Hall (031 226 7010); Wednesday, Sheffield City Hall (0742 735295); Thursday, St George's Hall, Bradford (0274 752000); Friday, Royal Court, Liverpool (051 709 4321); Jan 28, Apollo, Manchester (061 273 3775); Jan 29, Hull City Hall (0482 226655); Jan 31, Aston Villa Leisure Centre (021 328 4884); Feb 1, De Montfort Hall, Leicester (0432 544444); Feb 3, Newport Centre (0633 259767); Feb 4, St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 371236); Feb 5, Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 223687); Feb 6, Exeter University (0392 263528); Feb 8, Assembly Rooms, Derby (0332 363911); Feb 9, Hereford Leisure Centre (0432 271959); Feb 10, Corn Exchange, Cambridge (0223 387851); Feb 12, Guildhall, Portsmouth (0705 824355); Feb 13, Hexagon, Reading (0734 591591); Feb 14, UEA, Norwich (0603 505401); Feb 15, Brixton Academy, London (01-326 1022).

★ **PAUL McCARTNEY:** A dazzling show which celebrates the Beatles' heritage as much as it showcases last year's *Flowers in the Dirt* album. Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234), 7.30pm, £18.50, also tomorrow, Sun and for three more nights.

★ **SIMPLY RED:** Mick Hucknall's blue-eyed soul experience. G-Max, City Centre, Manchester (061 834 2700), tonight 7.30pm, £12-£14. SECC, Finsbury St, Glasgow (041 248 3000), Sun 7.30pm, £12-£14.

TOMORROW

★ **HUE AND CITY:** Scottish pop-soul politics with a rescheduled show to compensate for the performance which was abandoned at this venue last November when Pat Kane lost his voice. SECC, Finsbury St, Glasgow (041 248 3000), 7.30pm, £12-£14.

★ **ENRASURE:** Continuing the second leg of the duo's longest ever UK tour. G-Max, City Centre, Manchester (061 834 2700), Sat 7.30pm, £12-£14. NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133), Sun for two nights 7.30pm, £12-£14.

JAZZ

TODAY

★ **KENNY WHEELER:** The trumpeter celebrates his sixtieth birthday with the help of a big band built around his own quintet, plus the likes of Evan Parker and Stan Sulzmann. Royal Northern College of Music, 124 Oxford Rd, Manchester (061 273 4504), tonight, 7.45pm, £5. Albert Hall, Wellington Circus, Nottingham (0502 419741) tomorrow, 7.30pm, £5.50.

★ **PIANO TRIAD:** A grueling triple bill of solo recitals from three pianists — Django Bates of Locust Tubes, Alex Maguire and the impressionistic Kumi Kumoyoshi-Kuhn. Willersden Green Library Centre, 95 High Rd, London NW10 (01-491 0294), tonight, 8.30pm, £5.

TOMORROW

★ **EARL OKIN:** Ellington and Hoagy Carmichael standards from the singer-guitarist-pianist, performing at one of London's newer jazz venues. RO Jazz Club, West Wall, London Lock, London NW1 (01-485 6044), 8.45pm, £5.

★ **ROBERTO PIA:** The percussionist's Latin ensemble serves up infectious dance music. Double Bass, 162 Ears Court Rd, London SW5 (01-835 2021) 8.30pm, £7.50.

SUNDAY

★ **PETER BRÜTSMANN:** An avant-garde onslaught as the Last Exit saxophonist teams up with S-Shops For The Poor. Jazz Cafe, 55 Newington Green, London N16 (01-359 4600) 8.30pm, £2.

DANCE

TODAY

★ **CINDERELLA:** Sylvie Guillem dances the title role for the Royal Ballet tonight, and Maria Almeida continues the season with Royal Opera House Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-340 1086), 7.30pm, £1-£41.

★ **THE NUTCRACKER:** English National Ballet's season ends with performances tonight at 7.30, tomorrow 2.30 and 7.30pm. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-428 8800), £2-£19.50.

TOMORROW

★ **JEWELS:** A new programme of Raga Shakti Egyptian dance and music by Suraya Hikal. Opera Theatre, Royal Northern College of Music, Oxford Rd, Manchester (061 273 4504).

GALLERIES

★ **SARA RADSTONE AND ANGUS SUTTER:** Ceramic sculptures. Contemporary Applied Arts, 43 Earlham St, London WC2 (01-836 6863), Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, free, until Feb 17.

★ **PRINTS FROM SCOTTISH ART COLLEGES:** Printmaker's Workshop, 23 Union St, Edinburgh (0181 557 2475), Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, free, until Feb 24.

★ **LES MISERABLES:** The musical adaptation of Victor Hugo's novel. Palace Theatre, 434 Oxford St, London W1 (01-479 9600), 7.30pm, £12-£14. SECC, Finsbury St, Glasgow (041 248 3000), 7.30pm, £12-£14.

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★ **BLUE SKIES:** A sculpture/photography installation by Susan Traill. 40 High St, Waterman's Art Centre, 40 High St, Brentford (01-834 74610), Mon-Fri 11.30am-5.30pm, Sat-Sun 11am-5.30pm, free, until Feb 18.

★ **W BARRIS-GRAHAM:** A retrospective of work from 1940 to the present by a St Ives School painter who, like other members of that community, is equally at home with figurative and abstract work. Crawford Arts Centre, 93 North St, St Andrews, Fife (0334 74610), Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until Feb 25.

★ **THE GRAPHIC ART OF MAX KLINGER (1857-1920):** One hundred prints. Goethe-Institut, 50 Princes St, London SW7 (01-581 0410), Mon-Thurs noon-8pm, Fri noon-5pm, Sat 9.30am-12.30pm, free, until Mar 3.

★ **FIGURE INTO FORM:** Paintings and drawings of the human form by Maureen Garfield. Plymouth Theatre Gallery, Castle St, Plymouth (0752 267131), free, until Feb 24.

★ **WALKS TODAY**

★ **LAWYERS LONDON - WINS OF COURT AND OLD BAILEY:** Most Temple tube, 10.30am, £3.50.

★ **GOTHIC LONDON:** Most Museum of London, 2.30pm, £3.50.

★ **TOMORROW**

★ **LONDON'S HIDDEN ALLEYS AND COURTYARDS:** Most St Paul's tube, 2pm, £3.50.

★ **HAMPSTEAD PUB WALK:** Most Hampstead tube, 7.30pm, £2.

★ **SUNDAY**

★ **THE HISTORIC CITY - FROM THE ROMANS TO THE BLITZ:** Most Tower Hill tube, 11am, £4.

★ **BEATLES LONDON - ROCK ROUTES OF THE SWINGING SIXTIES:** Most Green Park tube, 2pm, £3.50.

★ **OTHER EVENTS**

★ **ANTIQUE FAIRS:** Four taking place this weekend, apart from the West London at Kensington Town Hall. Today and tomorrow at the Beer Hotel, Doves, Wiltshire. Tomorrow and Sun at The Old School, Long Melford, Suffolk. Tomorrow and Sun at the Exhibition Centre, near Linton, Cambridgeshire, and at the Pavilion Gardens, Exeter, Devon. Entry to all is free.

★ **GERRY COTTLES CIRCUS:** Traditional circus with spectacular stunts including trapeze and spring-riding. The circus and the circus gets into a bottle. Dampstead, Northampton (0604 24811). Until Jan 27, Mon-Sat 5pm and 7.30pm, Sun 2pm and 5pm.

★ **MARSHALL FREE FOLK:** Folk singer and guitarist. Marshalls leads his four piece band with original and modern jazz, bossa nova and "singable" melodies. Waterside cafe and wine bar open for refreshments. Barbican Theatre, Barbican, Silk St, London EC2, Sun 12.30-3pm, free.

★ **BLACKHEATH INTERNATIONAL BOND SERIES:** Readings by John Rodgers with Roger Vignoles. Blackheath, London SE18 (01-340 1086), 7.30pm, £1-£41.

★ **THE NUTCRACKER:** English National Ballet's season ends with performances tonight at 7.30, tomorrow 2.30 and 7.30pm. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-428 8800), £2-£19.50.

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This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY

- ★ Seats available
- ★ Returns only
- (D) Access for disabled

FILMS

Also on national release

Advance booking possible

BACK TO THE FUTURE II (PG): Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd zip to-and-fro through the time

space directed by Robert Zemeckis (108 min).

Canon Baker Street (01-935 9772), Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10.

Empire (01-200 0200), Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

Is Cinema Parkway Road (01-370 2588), Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10, 9.20.

Minerva (01-235 4225), Progs 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.

Whiteleys (01-792 3303), 1.20, 3.50, 6.20, 8.50, tomorrow and Sun 11.20, 1.50, 4.20, 6.50, 9.20.

TURNER AND HOOD (PG): Predictable cop-and-dog antics given some charm by Tom Hanks as the police

investigator. Canon Cinema (01-352 5006), Progs 1.45, 4.10, 7.10, 9.40.

Odeon Kensington (01-602 6844), Progs 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.30.

Odeon Leicester Square (01-830 6111), Progs 12.30, 3.00, 5.30, 8.15, 10.45, 12.30, 3.10, 5.45, 8.25.

Odeon Marble Arch (01-1230 3.10, 5.45, 8.25).

Odeon West End (01-722 5905), Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (15): Romantic comedy, with Billy Crystal and

Meg Ryan as professional Manhattanites who gradually fall for each other (95 min).

Canon Parkway (01-267 7034), Progs (not Sun) 3.30, 5.45, 8.30; Sun 5.00, 7.45.

Canon Cinema (01-352 5006), Progs 1.40, 4.00, 7.20, 9.45.

Odeon Kensington (01-602 6844/8), Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.25, 8.55.

Odeon Leicester Square (01-830 6111), Progs 1.50 (not Sat, Sun), 4.15 (not Sat, Sun), 6.30, 8.50.

West End (01-498 0781), Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.35.

Whiteleys (01-792 3303), Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.30, 8.55, tomorrow and Sun 11.30, 1.45, 4.15, 7.00, 9.25.

THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (18): Peter Greenaway's

bold tale of love, revenge and haute cuisine, with Richard Bohringer (the cook), Michael Gambon (the thief),

Helen Mirren (the wife) and Alan Howard (her lover) (120 min).

Canon Parkway (01-267 7034), Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.00.

Rescue (01-837 8402), Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.05, 8.40.

DEAD POETS SOCIETY (PG): Robin Williams as an English teacher who

inspires his pupils a dangerous love of poetry (128 min).

Canon Cinema (01-352 5006), Progs 1.40, 4.05, 6.25, 8.15.

Canon Parkway (01-267 7034), Progs 1.40, 4.05, 6.25, 8.15.

Odeon Kensington (01-602 6844), Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.30, 8.50.

Odeon West End (01-722 5905/7815), Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.45.

MYSTERY TRAIN (18): Edward G. Robinson as a man who is

overnighted in a Memphis hotel (113 min).

Lumiera (01-836 0861), Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50.

Screen on the Green (01-226 3520), Progs 4.00, 6.40, 8.50.

PARENTHOOD (12): Ealing heart-warmer from Richard Attenborough

about the joys and sorrows of raising children (114 min).

Canon Baker Street (01-935 9772), Progs 2.25, 5.25, 8.15.

Canon Parkway Road (01-370 2588), Progs 2.10, 5.10, 8.05.

Canon Oxford St (01-638 0310), Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.15. Last today, tomorrow 11.20.

Canon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 8279), Progs 2.15, 5.05, 7.55.

Notting Hill Cinema (01-727 0705), Progs 3.00, 5.35, 8.10.

Piazza (01-437 1234), Progs 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.

Whiteleys (01-792 3303), Progs 12.30, 3.15, 5.50, 8.45. Tomorrow and Sun 1.00, 3.45, 6.30, 9.15.

REALITY GOES SHOPPING (15): Broad

satre from director Percy Adlon and the

amplified Mannequin Sagesbrecht (84 min).

Canon Shaftesbury Ave (01-836 8279), Progs 1.20, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40.

Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742), Progs 2.25, 4.30, 6.40, 8.55.

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:

(1) When Harry Met Sally

(2) Parenthood

(3) Turner and Hood

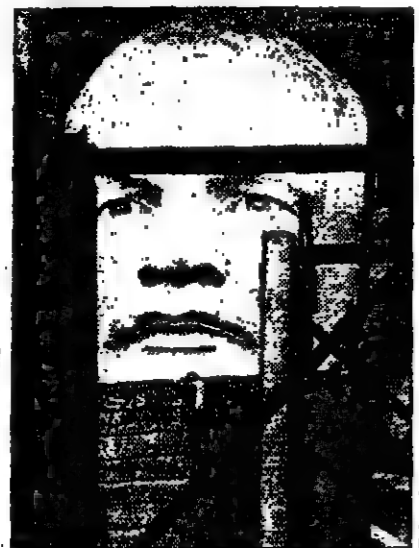
(4) Last Exit to Brooklyn

TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Gillian MaxeyPlaying a
numbers
game

Peter Waymark

Arzoo (BBC2, 9.30pm), which can usually be relied upon to come up with novel themes, launches a new series with a film by Fisher Dike called *Numbers*. It must have been quite a challenge to fill an hour of television, which depends on the concrete and the visual, with such a seemingly abstract subject. But drawing on material from both sides of the Atlantic, Dike is quickly into his stride. As an *hors-d'oeuvre*, he offers for our consideration such evocative combinations as 007, 747, 999, as well as Number 10. We are soon into the superstitions of the number 13, with waters at a West End hotel laying an extra place in order to avoid it. Janet Street-Porter explains the thinking behind such programme titles as *Network 7* and *Room 113*. There is a man who is convinced that buying a car with the number plate 666 (an apocalyptic combination of digits from the Book of Revelation) was responsible for launching a string of personal tragedies. Some of the items could have done with greater elaboration, such as the theory that the plot of a film always takes off at roughly the same page number on the script or that all dramas build down to 36 basic situations. Other pieces border on the pretentious and the incomprehensible. Dike makes no attempt to pull them together and establish common links. He presents an anthology rather than a thesis, entertaining but ultimately inconsequential.



Imposing: Mervyn's 30R head of Lenin reflects a dominant ideology (C4, 8.55pm)

● *Rory Curran* (Channel 4, 8.00pm), the latest offering in the *Soviet Spring* season, does set out a thesis. It is that the relationship between art (specifically painting and architecture) and politics in the Soviet Union and the United States is not as different as might be imagined. Democracies, too, can impose a dominant ideology. The film offers a striking example in the stalinist 1930s architecture common to Stalin's Moscow and Roosevelt's Washington (and, for that matter, Hitler's Munich). The more interesting question of why a communist, a capitalist and a fascist state should celebrate their public face in similar style is less convincingly pursued. Other parallels are less convincing. Spread over two evenings (the second part is at the same time tomorrow), *Irony Curran* is an ambitious, erudite survey with a high standard of illustration. But its material deserves to have been better organized.

BBC

8.00 *Contest*.
8.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Wintchell and Jill Dando. Regular news headlines, financial and business bulletins, sports items, regional news, weather and travel reports, plus a look at the morning newspapers with Paul Cullen.
8.55 Regional news and weather.

9.00 *News* and weather followed by *Open Air*. Viewers comment on yesterday's television, introduced by Eamonn Holmes. To contribute ring 081 614 0424.

9.20 *Katroy*. Robert Katroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.

10.00 *News* and weather followed by *Going for Gold* (r).

10.25 *Children's BBC*, presented by Simon Parkin, begins with *Playdays* (r) 10.40 *Poddington* (r) 10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Douglas Hodge with a reading.

11.00 *News* and weather followed by *Open Air*, introduced by Eamonn Holmes and Jayne Irving.

12.00 *News* and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. Today's edition includes guest Thelma Barlow, who plays *Wanda* in *Coronation Street*. 12.55 Regional news and weather.

1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather.

1.30 *Neighbours*. After her whirlwind time with John Worthington, Mrs Mancini wonders whether or not she is really ready for what he is offering. (Contax)

1.50 *Film: The Running Man* (1983), starring Laurence Harvey, Lee Remick and Alan Bates. Thriller based on Stephen King's novel about an airline pilot who takes a glider accident, so that his wife can claim life insurance.

2.30 *Lifeline*. Cliff Nicholmore and Lynette Nicholmore with the latest charity news; and Penny Junior with an appeal on behalf of the Friends for the Young Deaf Trust (r).

3.00 *Cartoon*. *One Mother's Family* 3.30 *Is That a Fact?* Series exploring the world of legend and myth. 4.00 *The New Year Is Just Beginning*. Cartoon comedy. 4.15 *Jackanory*. Nick Witton with the latest of Dick King-Smith's *Martin's Mice*. 4.30 *Coopers and Lysons*. With David Copperfield (r).

4.50 *Newsweek Extra*. Helen Robinson reports on this year's Commonwealth Games which are being held in Auckland, New Zealand, and talks to some of the younger British athletes who will be taking part.

5.10 *Grange Hill*. Episode six and Calley and Ronnie are caught in an embarrassing situation. (Contax)

5.35 *Neighbours* (r). (Contax)

5.50 *St. O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton and Jill Dando. Weather.

6.30 *Newsweek South East*. 7.00 *Wogan*. With Jerry Hall, actors George Wendi and Ronald Fraser, and Geoffrey Lawton, who successfully stood in for the unwell Claudio Donning in the title role of the opera *Giulio*. Plus a song from Tanita Tikaram.

7.40 *'Allo 'Allo* René and Leclerc devise a way of blowing up the safe in Gruher's bedroom which contains plans for the German invasion of Britain (r). (Contax)

8.00 *Campion*. *Sweet Danger*. In the last episode of the two-part serial, private-eye detective Albert Campion makes a disappointing return to Pontiffrith in order to track down Savanaka, which culminates in a duel of interests at the mill. With Peter Davison and Ian Cuthbertson. (Contax)

8.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Marilyn Lewis. Regional news and weather.

9.30 *Film: Sophie's Choice* (1982), starring Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline and Peter MacNicol. Powerful drama based on William Styron's novel, about a Polish immigrant and survivor of Auschwitz, who finds herself in Brooklyn after the war, who befriends a young writer. This friendship for her gradually begins to unfold the nightmare that still haunts her and the love she found during the war. Directed by Alan J. Pakula. (Contax)

11.55 *Barry White* in Concert. Soul singer Barry White recorded in concert at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham during the International Music Festival (r).

12.55 *News*.

BBC

8.00 *TV-am* begins with *News* and *Good Morning Britain*, introduced by Linda Mitchell and from 7.00, by Richard Kaye and Lorraine Kelly. Includes news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After *News* includes Russell Grant with his insights.

9.25 *Lucky Dip*. Word association game. 9.55 *Thames News*.

10.00 *The Time ... The Place ... Mike Scott* introduces a special edition, following on from Monday's programme in which an English family spent a week with a Moscow family. Today the Soviet family visits his English counterparts in Kent.

10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes items on the new pet care, and gardening. National news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather.

12.10 *Relaxation*. Learning with puppets series. 12.30 *News* and weather. Preparations for the wedding are under way at the Fletcher house.

1.00 *News* at One with John Suchet. Weather. 1.20 *Thames News* and weather.

1.30 *It's a Vella Life*. The first of a new series presented by Neil John Baxter. 2.00 *The Bill* (r).

2.30 *Give Us a Class*. Celebrity quiz. 3.00 *Michael Parkinson*. Joining team captain Lionel Blair and Lisa Goodard today are Ross Davidson, Bob Moines, James Irvine, Linda Lewis, Libby Morris and Robin McEwain. 3.25 *Thames News* and weather. 3.50 *Sore and Daughters*. Drama series following the lives of the Hamiltons and the Faircliffes.

4.00 *Urbey*. Timmy Mallett is taught to draw cartoons by Ashley Haynes. 4.30 *Round the Bend*. Comedy series at 4.45 *Palace Hill*. Escapes set in a comprehensive school.

5.10 *Homes and Away* (r). 5.40 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. Weather.

5.55 *Crimo Monthly Preview*. 6.00 *6 O'Clock Live* presented by Frank Bough.

7.00 *Concentration*. Game show. 7.30 *Concentration*. Game show. 7.50 *Concentration*. Game show.

8.00 *News*. 8.30 *News*. 8.55 *News*. 9.00 *News*. 9.25 *News*. 9.55 *News*. 10.00 *News*. 10.25 *News*. 10.55 *News*. 11.00 *News*. 11.25 *News*. 11.55 *News*. 12.00 *News*. 12.25 *News*. 12.55 *News*. 1.00 *News*. 1.25 *News*. 1.55 *News*. 2.00 *News*. 2.25 *News*. 2.55 *News*. 3.00 *News*. 3.25 *News*. 3.55 *News*. 4.00 *News*. 4.25 *News*. 4.55 *News*. 5.00 *News*. 5.25 *News*. 5.55 *News*. 6.00 *News*. 6.25 *News*. 6.55 *News*. 7.00 *News*. 7.25 *News*. 7.55 *News*. 8.00 *News*. 8.25 *News*. 8.55 *News*. 9.00 *News*. 9.25 *News*. 9.55 *News*. 10.00 *News*. 10.25 *News*. 10.55 *News*. 11.00 *News*. 11.25 *News*. 11.55 *News*. 12.00 *News*. 12.25 *News*. 12.55 *News*. 1.00 *News*. 1.25 *News*. 1.55 *News*. 2.00 *News*. 2.25 *News*. 2.55 *News*. 3.00 *News*. 3.25 *News*. 3.55 *News*. 4.00 *News*. 4.25 *News*. 4.55 *News*. 5.00 *News*. 5.25 *News*. 5.55 *News*. 6.00 *News*. 6.25 *News*. 6.55 *News*. 7.00 *News*. 7.25 *News*. 7.55 *News*. 8.00 *News*. 8.25 *News*. 8.55 *News*. 9.00 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● LAW 34
● SPORT 35-40

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6460 (-0.0035)

W German mark
2.8089 (+0.0237)

Exchange index
88.1 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1864.4 (-30.9)

FT-SE 100
2338.9 (-37.0)

USM (Dow Jones)
157.13 (-0.73)

Market report, page 28

Macarthy sued by ex-chief

Macarthy, the pharmaceutical wholesaler, was yesterday served a writ by its former chairman, claiming damages, immediately in front of the group's results for the year ended September. Mr Ian Parsons, the chief executive, confirmed that Mr Nicholas Ward, until last August Macarthy's chairman and chief executive — had served papers on the company. Macarthy reported pre-tax profits of £6.5 million (£6.1 million) on a turnover of £33.4 million (£37.4 million). The final dividend rises from 7p to 7.5p, payable on April 9, making 12.5p (11.5p). There is an extraordinary charge of £2.02 million below the profits line, associated with UniChem legal moves, reorganization of manufacturing and other items. Macarthy's shares were 7p weaker at 229p.

Times, page 22

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2854.22 (-4.91)
London	FT 30	1864.4 (-30.9)
Frankfurt	DAX	1778.40 (-28.08)
Paris	CAC	536.53 (-2.0)
Zurich	SIX	908.7 (-7.5)
Amsterdam	AEX	118.2 (-1.3)
Brussels	BELX	1573.7 (-8.1)
Stockholm	OMX	177.40 (-2.08)
Oslo	BOMX	945.85 (-8.5)
Copenhagen	COSI	536.53 (-2.0)
Stockholm	OMX	177.40 (-2.08)
Oslo	BOMX	945.85 (-8.5)
Copenhagen	COSI	536.53 (-2.0)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Shares	Range	Change
British	373p	(+11p)
US	462.70	(+1.00)
Gold	373p	(+11p)
Oil	462.70	(+1.00)
Base Metals	373p	(+11p)
Grains	462.70	(+1.00)
Stocks	373p	(+11p)
Bonds	462.70	(+1.00)
Commodities	373p	(+11p)
Options	462.70	(+1.00)
Derivatives	373p	(+11p)
Exchange Rates	462.70	(+1.00)
Interest Rates	373p	(+11p)
Real Estate	462.70	(+1.00)
Art Market	373p	(+11p)
Antiques	462.70	(+1.00)
Collectibles	373p	(+11p)
Numismatics	462.70	(+1.00)
Stamps	373p	(+11p)
Coins	462.70	(+1.00)
Medals	373p	(+11p)
Books	462.70	(+1.00)
Records	373p	(+11p)
Video	462.70	(+1.00)
Software	373p	(+11p)
Hardware	462.70	(+1.00)
Electronics	373p	(+11p)
Automotive	462.70	(+1.00)
Aerospace	373p	(+11p)
Defense	462.70	(+1.00)
Healthcare	373p	(+11p)
Pharmaceuticals	462.70	(+1.00)
Biotechnology	373p	(+11p)
Telecommunications	462.70	(+1.00)
Media	373p	(+11p)
Entertainment	462.70	(+1.00)
Sports	373p	(+11p)
Religion	462.70	(+1.00)
Education	373p	(+11p)
Government	462.70	(+1.00)
Corporate	373p	(+11p)
Personal	462.70	(+1.00)
Business	373p	(+11p)
Finance	462.70	(+1.00)
Law	373p	(+11p)
Science	462.70	(+1.00)
Technology	373p	(+11p)
Environment	462.70	(+1.00)
Energy	373p	(+11p)
Water	462.70	(+1.00)
Waste	373p	(+11p)
Food	462.70	(+1.00)
Beverages	373p	(+11p)
Tobacco	462.70	(+1.00)
Alcohol	373p	(+11p)
Drugs	462.70	(+1.00)
Medical	373p	(+11p)
Health	462.70	(+1.00)
Wellness	373p	(+11p)
Spa	462.70	(+1.00)
Resort	373p	(+11p)
Cruise	462.70	(+1.00)
Travel	373p	(+11p)
Transport	462.70	(+1.00)
Aviation	373p	(+11p)
Maritime	462.70	(+1.00)
Rail	373p	(+11p)
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Air	462.70	(+1.00)
Space	373p	(+11p)
Outer	462.70	(+1.00)
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Earth	462.70	(+1.00)
Universe	373p	(+11p)
Galaxy	462.70	(+1.00)
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Hyper	462.70	(+1.00)
Ultra	373p	(+11p)
Super	462.70	(+1.00)

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

British Gas finds oil at Beckering

Oil has been found by British Gas at a new onshore drilling site at Beckering, 10 miles north-east of Lincoln and near the existing BP Welton onshore field. A test well drilled to more than 5,000ft will now be suspended. Tests produced oil at 120 barrels per day plus minor amounts of gas. Subject to planning consent, it is expected that a long-term test will now be undertaken to evaluate commercial feasibility.

The licence is 100 per cent owned by Gas Council (Exploration), wholly-owned by British Gas which discovered Britain's largest onshore oilfield at Wytch Farm in Dorset. Its interest was sold off by the Government prior to privatization.

Boots names chairman

Boots, the pharmaceuticals and retailing company, has named Sir Christopher Benson as the group's new chairman. He will take over at the group's annual general meeting on July 26. Sir Christopher, who became a non-executive director of Boots in April last year, will succeed Mr Robert Genn.

Mitie ahead at £276,000

Mitie Group lifted pre-tax profits to £276,000 (£76,000) in the half-year to September on turnover of £7.4 million. There is again no interim dividend, on eps of 4.9p (3.7p). The board hopes recent acquisitions, Mitie Cleaning & Maintenance and Multicore Painting Contractors, will contribute significantly to future growth.

Denmans up to £2m

Continued growth in the electrical wholesale business at Denmans Electrical, the Unlisted Securities Market electrical wholesaler, helped it to a 24 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £2.87 million in the year to end-September, on turnover up 24.2 per cent to £34.1 million. Earnings per share rose by 34.8 per cent to 33.55p and the final dividend is improved from 3.05p to 3.85p, making 5.4p for the year, up 26.8 per cent.

There is an exceptional credit of £328,000 and an extraordinary gain of £66,000. Following a property revaluation and record retained earnings, total net assets increased by 43 per cent to 189p per share. The shares climbed by 7p to 215p.

Bonus issue offer at NFC

The 45,000 shareholders in NFC, the former National Freight Consortium bought from the Government in 1982, are being offered a bonus issue of one new share for every two held, subject to approval at the annual meeting on February 25 in Blackpool. NFC is also planning an ADR listing on the American Stock Exchange.

United News in £24m buy

United Newspapers has moved into the Dutch trade exhibition market with the purchase of Menteur Marketing Services for up to £24 million. The venture means that pre-tax profits of £2.95 million will be made this year. Initially, United will issue 4.5 million new shares to be placed at 425p each on behalf of the vendors.

Anglia's success is based on more than just Survival

Like the *Survival* wildlife programmes on which it based much of its early reputation, Anglia TV continues largely unchanged by the upheavals in the television industry.

It has a cautious foot in the satellite camp through its small founding stake in BSB, and a growing array of strategic stakes in local radio networks in its area which cannot, under existing rules, be expanded into full control.

But Anglia has ruled out any innovative diversification into other areas, leisure-related or otherwise, preferring to pin its hopes on a successful bid for its franchise. It is, therefore, stacking up its cash to that end, with some £24 million in the bank at the October 31 year end, despite another £9 million invested in BSB that month.

This cautious, even stodgy approach, continues to reap rewards. Pre-tax profits rose 15 per cent to £18.5 million, helped by a 14 per cent advertisement revenue rise, against a 9 per cent industry average. Although some flattening-out is inevitable, Anglia is confident it can retain market share.

Although programme sales in this country doubled to £10.6 million, in the US they were virtually static.

Anglia's defensive qualities have been recognized in a sector swum with hazards. The shares command a relatively high rating, although have suffered with the rest as perceptions of the risks facing TV companies have heightened. They dropped just 3p to 259p.

Profits this year will inevitably be hit by a higher exchequer levy but should be about £18 million, leaving the shares on a multiple of 9.3

times' future earnings, with the prospective dividend yield about 5 per cent.

In a sector which includes such expensive follies as TVS's acquisition of MTM, sticking to your last can be a positive virtue. There looks to be little downside at this level.

Stanley Leisure/ Allied Leisure

Falling disposable income has not prevented people from spending more than £100 a night in Stanley Leisure's provincial casinos; nor has it stopped them eating at Allied Leisure's Jazbo Browns restaurants after bowling at a 30-lane 10-pin MegaBowl.

Both fast-growing leisure groups emerged unscathed from the consumer spending downturn, reporting interim results ahead of forecasts.

Allied, the USM out-of-town leisure complex group, reported an 83 per cent pre-tax profit rise to £942,000 for the six months to end-December, with eps up from 2.46p to 4.91p. Full-year profits of £1.7 million (£950,000) are expected, with £3 million pencilled in for the following year as a return of more than 25 per cent of the group's £10 million-plus capital expenditure on its MegaBowls and Tower Park leisure complexes comes quickly on stream.

With its shares up 1p to 86p, it is trading on 9.6 times prospective p/e.

Over at Stanley Leisure, Mr Leonard Steinberg's betting and casino group which earlier this month bought 8 provincial casinos for £10.7 million from Leading Leisure, pre-tax profits were up 74 per cent to



Ian Parsons: aiming to make up for lost ground at Macarthy

£4.22 million in the half-year to end-October, with interim earnings per share up from 8.94p to 9.58p and the dividend up from 1.75p to 2p.

Stanley's steadily-growing income stream from its 17 provincial casinos has insulated it from the spending downturn afflicting London operators.

Mr Steinberg plans to buy about 100 more betting shops from a number of sellers.

"There is no sign of any drop in the spend per head - now £3.30 - or the number of bets," he said.

Stanley, trading at an 8 per cent premium to the all-share index at 243p but still seen as a

"buy" given its defensive qualities and strong management, is expected to report a significant rise in full-year pre-tax profits from £5.1 million to £8.65 million, putting it on a prospective p/e of 12.1 times.

Macarthy

Macarthy could have done without the legal wranglings that have darkened its life recently.

The fight with UniChem over that company's share scheme accounts for part of a £2.02 million extraordinary item charged below the line in

Macarthy's latest accounts, so another transfer from reserves has been made.

Now, Mr Nicholas Ward, former chairman and chief executive whose resignation was not unconnected with the consequences of the UniChem battle, has served a writ for unspecified damages.

Tough conditions in its market place may be partly to blame for Macarthy's unexciting performance in the year to end-September when pre-tax profits edged forward by only 6 per cent to £6.5 million.

But management's eye not being fully on the ball must also have played a part, and if the time devoted to solicitors had been more usefully deployed, then results might have been more respectable.

That profits crept forward on a 12 per cent fall in sales demonstrates some management success, however, and the final dividend rises from 7p to 7.5p, payable April 9, making 12.5p (11.5p).

Macarthy plans to make up lost ground under chief executive Ian Parsons and is concentrating on the bones of its business. Matters needing attention include gearing - an effective 60 per cent and a net interest charge of £2.31 million, up from £1.73 million; an improvement in wholesaling margins; and higher visibility on the retail side.

Pre-tax profits could nudge forward to £7 million this year, and the shares down 7p at 229p have the support of a yield of 7.3 per cent. However the p/e at 13.2 is looking some way ahead. Until the interim report demonstrates the recovery - and barring renewed takeover speculation - there should be no rush to buy.

Two buys in America for growing Blenheim

By Philip Pangalos

Blenheim Exhibition Group, the acquisitive Unlisted Securities Market exhibition and conference organizer, is making two further acquisitions - in America - for £11.93 million.

In one deal, Blenheim is buying, for \$15.3 million, Bobbin International, which organizes the Bobbin Show for the American clothes manufacturing industry, and Bobbin Media Corporation, publisher of trade magazines complementing the show.

The companies, which are both based in South Carolina, made pre-tax profits of \$1.52 million in the year to end-December 1988, with combined assets of \$349,000 at end-September 1989.

Blenheim has also acquired Spectrum Shows, which organizes consumer-oriented franchise and business opportunity exhibitions in California, for up to \$4.2 million.

Mr Neville Buch, Blenheim's chairman, said that the company was committed to controlled expansion in the United States through selective acquisitions.

The purchases add another industry sector to Blenheim's expanding portfolio and will help to raise its profile in America, the world's largest exhibitions market. The shares slipped by 10p to 98p.

Pillsbury cash

Pillsbury, Grand Metropolitan's US offshoot, is investing \$140 million (£85.1 million) to improve quality, reduce costs and enhance customer service at its three bakery products businesses over 18 months. It will result in the loss of 1,300 jobs, mostly in 1991, which will be offset by the creation of up to 800.

Avon revises profit after business sale

By Jeremy Andrews

Avon Rubber has decided not to consolidate the results of its loss-making Motorway tyre distribution business, the bulk of which was sold to Sumitomo Rubber last year.

As a result it is revising its pre-tax profits for the year to September to £12.5 million, from the £12.2 million reported eight weeks ago.

The additional £280,000 raised earnings per share from 41p to 42.6p, but Mr John Bradbeer, Avon's former finance director, said that the decision to revise the profits was "totally unconnected" with the news that Trelleborg, the Swedish group with rubber and plastics interests, has taken a 4.8 per cent stake.

The shares sank back 22p to 508p, but remained 80p above their level on Wednesday before the stake was disclosed. Mr Bradbeer thought that the setback was connected with press reports that Trelleborg did not intend to bid at present. He said that he could not comment further on Trelleborg's position before a possible announcement today.

Figures reported in December had not been audited and, at that stage, Avon had had a different understanding of its obligations under the Companies Acts and accounting standards than had emerged in discussions with auditors, Mr Bradbeer said.

In a statement, Avon said that the disposition of the shareholdings in Motorway Tyres and Accessories prevented the company exercising significant influence over it, and, accordingly, Motorway, although a related company, should not be accounted for as an associated company.

In May, SP Tyres, the British subsidiary of Sumitomo Rubber, paid Avon £22.2 million for a 70 per cent stake in Motorway and a 20 per cent stake in Avon's tyre manufacturing business.

Rockfort in profits warning

By Matthew Bond

Lack of tenant interest and the virtual withdrawal of United Kingdom institutions from the property market lie behind yesterday's profits warning from Rockfort, the development group.

Mr Roger Smee, the chairman, gave warning that "activities in the second half of the 1989 are not expected to generate a substantial addition to profits already reported for the half year to June." The announcement knocked shares down 9p to 46p.

In the first half, Rockfort made £2.8 million pre-tax profits. Analysts who had been forecasting about £11 million for the whole of last year, hastily reduced their forecasts to about £3 million.

Rockfort's December year-end left it particularly vulnerable to the mini-collapse of the property market in the final three months of last year.

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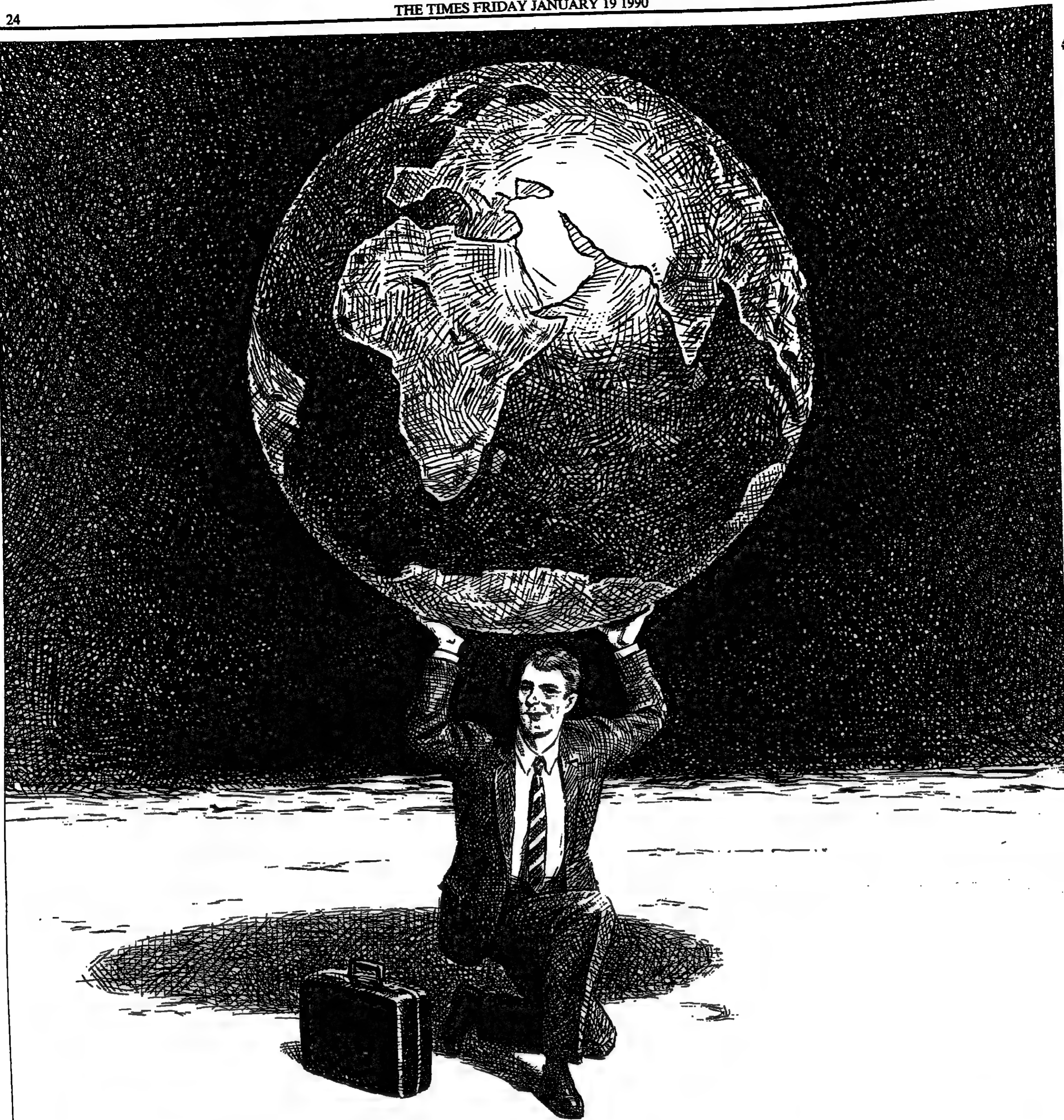
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Smiths wins contracts for European fighter

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Smiths Industries, which has already gained some big contracts in defence avionics for multi-function displays to in-flight pilots, has won a series of development contracts for avionics systems in the European Fighter Aircraft (EFA) project, which should lead to production contracts worth about \$450 million.

With most of the awards, Smiths is part of European consortia and the Smiths share eventually is expected to exceed a third of the total. It has partners from West Germany, Italy and Spain, which, with Britain, are the countries behind the EFA project.

Development contracts worth \$45 million and fully funded have gone to consortia, in most of which Smiths is project leader or technical leader with design authority. Smiths should benefit from about a third of their value. The systems involve not only multi-function "head-down" displays for pilot information, but cockpit glare shields and engine control units.

One disappointed rival for supply of avionics systems is beleaguered Ferranti, but it still appears to be a front runner for the EFA radar system, worth \$6 billion.

Mr Roger Hurn, chief executive of Smiths, said the company was confident of securing further "significant" EFA contracts.

Most of the new work will take place at Smiths factories at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire; Basingstoke, Hampshire; and Putney, south-west London.

The company's biggest share will come from the head-down displays, which have been sold also to McDonnell Douglas.

If the EFA project were dropped — there are suggestions that West Germany might pull out in the wake of political changes in the Eastern bloc — Smiths would not entirely be the loser because British and German defence authorities would still need a new-generation, agile fighter for the late 1990s, and McDonnell Douglas is the likeliest supplier.

Mr Hurn said: "Even if Germany did pull out, there is such a head of steam behind the EFA that it is likely to go ahead anyway."



Roger Hurn: confident of more contracts for aircraft project.

More tests by PowerGen on new fuel

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A million tonnes of Orimulsion, a power station fuel developed by BP and the state oil company of Venezuela, is to be imported by PowerGen following trials at its Ince power station in Cheshire.

Orimulsion, an emulsion of 70 per cent heavy oil and 30 per cent water, has been developed and produced in Venezuela by Bitor, an off-

shoot of Petroleos de Venezuela, the state oil group.

PowerGen's decision to enter into a further contract with BP Bitor, a joint venture between BP and Bitor, follows trials in 1988 when a single burner was modified to allow burning of 200 tonnes of Orimulsion. This led to the a 500 megawatt boiler trial at the station last year. Mr Ed

Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive said: "Results, though encouraging, have not been conclusive. This long-term contract will make possible a bigger burn and enable us to look closer at the fuel."

The next stage of evaluation will take the form of full scale trials involving the burning of one million tonnes of Orimulsion in 1991 as part of a

programme which will continue for several years.

Orimulsion is produced from the world's natural bitumen deposits in the Orinoco belt in Venezuela.

It is estimated that recoverable reserves equate to twice the coal reserves in Australia. Tonne for tonne, Orimulsion has an energy content about 9 per cent higher than coal.

Soundtracs slips to £751,000

By Our City Staff

Pre-tax profits at Soundtracs, the USM audio equipment group, slipped from £822,000 to £751,000 in the year to November 6, on turnover up 10 per cent at £4.01 million.

The decline in profits comes after the company decided to write off research and development costs of £95,000 in the current year.

Earnings per share are reduced from 3.32p to 4.86p, and the final dividend is 1.35p, against 1.5p last time, making an unchanged total of 2.2p for the year.

Soundtracs makes computerized sound consoles for recording studios and broadcast stations and exports more than 85 per cent of its products, with customers in the US, West Germany and Japan.

It was confident, it said, that the creative marketing approach taken, particularly in North America, would precipitate far stronger sales.

Mr Anthony Roberts has been appointed as financial director, replacing Mr Stephen Garbutt who now becomes a non-executive director.

Analysts feel the profits are of good quality and are positive about the overall situation despite a difficult British and Hong Kong market.

The shares lost 4p to 41p.

US and Japan bolster ties between markets

Tokyo (Reuters) — US and Japanese regulators have strengthened and updated procedures for keeping in close contact during stock market turbulence.

At the end of a day of talks with Japan's finance ministry, Mr Richard Breeden, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, said stability of markets was a critical priority for both countries.

"We updated and reviewed our procedures so that we can be in instantaneous and continuous communication in times of market stress, either in the US or Japan," said the SEC's chairman.

The ministry asked Mr Breeden about the impact of computer program trading on Wall Street during last October's mini-crash.

There were signs, it said, that such trading had played a bigger role in recent market moves in Japan.

Mr Masahiko Kadotani, director general of the Securities Bureau, said computer program trading had played a



Breeden: 'Stability critical' relatively large role in the increased volatility of Japanese share prices at the end of last year and the beginning of 1990.

Program trading was likely to increase gradually in Japan, he added, noting that foreign securities companies had been more active than their Japanese counterparts.

Mr Breeden welcomed Japan's plans to open up its domestic investment trust business to direct competition from foreign companies.

"We recognize that process needs to be reciprocal," he added.

The SEC was ready to propose changes in legislation in the United States governing mutual funds to improve the ability of Japanese investment trust companies to compete in the US, he said.

But the willingness of Congress to go along with this would depend on the progress made in removing the bigger barriers to foreign competition in Japan.

Mr Breeden said discussions among major nations on a common capital standard for securities companies were at an advanced stage.

"Capital adequacy is a very important part of building a stable framework for our marketplace."

He also said the two sides had discussed ways of moving toward a system that would allow companies to issue shares simultaneously in the US and Japan.

But, he added, that was a long-term goal that might not be achieved this year or even in 1991.

Peking to enter HK market

From Lulu Ya, Hong Kong

The China International Trust and Investment Corp, Peking's investment arm in Hong Kong, has struck a strategic takeover deal to give its assets a public listing.

It is taking over Tyfoll, a Hong Kong company with property and textile interests, with Tyfoll first acquiring CITIC's 38 per cent stake in Dragonair.

The move allows CITIC, a private company, to gain access to the colony's stock market without having to seek a public listing for itself.

It also paves the way for the acquisition of Hong Kong Telecom, the subsidiary of Cable and Wireless in which CITIC is negotiating a 20 per cent interest.

Mr Larry Yung, CITIC managing director, yesterday hoped the Hong Kong Telecom deal would be finalized by the end of the month.

Under the proposed offer, Tyfoll will acquire Dragonair for HK\$374 million (£29.5 million), and then CITIC will buy 49 per cent of Tyfoll after disposal of Tyfoll's textile interests.

The Chao family, the owners of Tyfoll and founders of Dragonair, will retain a 13 per cent minority interest in the listed company while the rest

of the share capital will be offered to the public.

Cathay Pacific, the Hong Kong airline, and Swire Pacific, its British parent and Dragonair's second largest shareholder, together hold 35 per cent.

The flurry of activities by CITIC in recent months show Peking's desire to increase its economic domination of Hong Kong businesses.

It is estimated CITIC's acquisition of Dragonair, and its planned Hong Kong Telecom deal — the biggest ever investment held by a Chinese company in the colony — will cost about HK\$10 billion.

Davenport Vernon rises to £2.47m

By Philip Pangalos

Despite difficult market conditions, Davenport Vernon, the Home Counties multi-franchise car dealer which came to the market last March, saw pre-tax profits edge ahead from £2.43 million to £2.47 million in the year to end-September, while turnover advanced by 19.1 per cent to £90.2 million.

Mr Ralph Denne, the chairman and managing director, said the operating divisions improved their performance with an increase in gross profit, up 9 per cent to £7.48 million, demonstrating the group's resilience to tougher market conditions.

Earnings per share slip from 16.8p to 14.3p. As anticipated at the interim stage, there is a final dividend of 3.5p for the year.

New car profits increased by 6 per cent and used cars by 2 per cent. Service climbed by 9 per cent, while parts were 13 per cent ahead and petrol forecourts advanced 4 per cent. Engineering saw the greatest improvement, rising 79 per cent, although commercial vehicles fell 20 per cent due to the closure of Bedford Trucks.

Mr Denne said current trading conditions were difficult, but expected improvement in the second half.

The shares lost 5p to 93p.

Air France to raise £2.6m for UTA deal

Paris (Reuters) — Air France, the state-owned company said it will raise about £2.5 billion (£2.64 million) on capital markets to help finance the purchase of a majority stake in Union de Transports Aeriens (UTA).

Air France said it would pay about Fr5 billion francs for the 54.58 per cent stake it has agreed to buy in UTA from Chargeurs, the holding company, plus the 17 per cent privately held.

About Fr2 billion would be funded by existing credit lines and available cash resources, Fr500 million from unspecified asset sales and Fr2.5 billion on capital markets.

The company said it would go to the market for Fr2.5 billion, with an issue of bonds, investment certificates or other formula.

Air France has agreed to pay Chargeurs Fr4.083 per UTA share and guaranteed the same price to private shareholders. Chargeurs has also reserved the right to sell its remaining 28 per cent in UTA to Air France at a later date.

Air France said the Fr2 billion necessary for this 28 per cent stake, if Chargeurs sold, would be paid in at least two tranches in 1991 and 1992 but it had not been decided how this sum would be raised.

The company, being state-owned, is forbidden to raise capital via new ordinary voting shares but may issue up to 25 per cent of its equity capital in non-voting investment certificates.

Half-time profits leap by 236% at Jarvis

By Our City Staff

Profits continue to rise at Jarvis, the building contractor and property dealer, as it reaps the benefits of the reconstruction programme started more than two years ago.

Pre-tax profits surged by 236 per cent to £1.07 million in the six months to end-September, on turnover, boosted by acquisitions, advancing 75 per cent to £35 million.

Earnings per share rose from 3.6p to 3.8p and the interim dividend is improved to 0.825p (0.75p).

Mr Harvey Bard, chairman, said the first six months saw further significant progress



Bard: reorganization pays off with both divisions performing well. Average contract values have increased from about £750,000 in the early days to about £1.25 million.

Proceeds must be held in separate account

Bond wins court approval for Harriet oil stake sale

From David Tweed, Sydney

The Victorian supreme court judge presiding over the Bond receivership case yesterday gave court approval for the Bond group to sell its 57.7 per cent stake in the Harriet oil field for about US\$36 million (£21.9 million).

The sale of Bond Corp's share in Harriet, off the coast of Western Australia, was announced last November.

Settlement of the sale had been extended until today but Mr Peter O'Callaghan, counsel for the receivers, told Mr Justice Beach that unless the court approval was gained immediately, the entire deal would collapse.

Bond brewing is involved because it has a charge over Bond Corp's Harriet assets.

Legal arguments by Mr SE Hulme, QC, for the National Australia Bank (NAB), that the sale could be a breach of the disputed loan and credit agreement, and that the proceeds should be used to reduce bank debts of Bond brewing

were overturned by Justice Beach.

Mr Hulme claimed Bond Brewing had a seek-charge responsibility over the Harriet receivable and that the US debenture holders also had to give their consent to the sale.

The US debenture holders came only second to the banks in the settlement of debts but the NAB-led bank syndicate could be responsible in New York "if it were seen to be a party to a legal breach of the loan and credit agreement."

Mr Hulme said the bank syndicate — which has an Aus\$880 million (£419 million) exposure to Bond Brewing — was well disposed to the sale of the Harriet oil field stake but foresaw major loan agreement breach difficulties if the sale went ahead.

Mr Justice Beach said the matter was complex but commonsense dictated that consent be given to the Bond Brewing receivers and managers for the sale to go ahead.

He ordered the sale proceeds to be held in a separate interest-bearing account "and not dispersed without a court order."

Mr O'Callaghan told the court earlier that Mr Tony Oates, a Bond executive, had suggested the amount due to Bond Brewing would now be US\$36 million rather than the \$42 million previously expected.

In other developments, Bond Corp was preparing to send a huge legal bill to the West Australian State Government Insurance Commission (SGIC) after a decision yesterday by the West Australian supreme court that the commission must pay the full costs of its unsuccessful bid to wind up the Bond flagships.

Bond's legal team was delighted yesterday that Mr Justice Ipp had ruled that it should receive all reasonable "indemnity costs" for its court defence — that is, its full costs.



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STOCK MARKET

Share prices hit by fears for bonds

The equity market's roller-coaster performance is continuing with prices again beating a record retreat. Investors have been worried all this week about events in Tokyo and New York, but yesterday the bond market dragged shares lower with investors concerned about rising inflation.

Government securities ended with losses stretching to £1 at the longer end - for the second day in a row. Dealers say that the gap between the yields on equities and bonds is the biggest for some time and that a correction is inevitable at some stage.

A sharp mark-down by market-makers produced a few sellers although turnover generally remained depressed with only 450 million shares traded. The slide continued, accelerating before the start of trading on Wall Street where traders were predicting heavy falls ahead of the publication of the latest consumer price figures. But the Dow Jones industrial average managed to reduce an opening fall of 25 points in early trading. This enabled the FT-SE 100 index to close off the bottom with a drop of 37.0 points to 2,336.9, having been 47.7 down. The FT index of top 30 shares lost 30.9 to 1,864.4.

Ferranti added to the market's depression, tumbling 94p to 374p as Thomson-

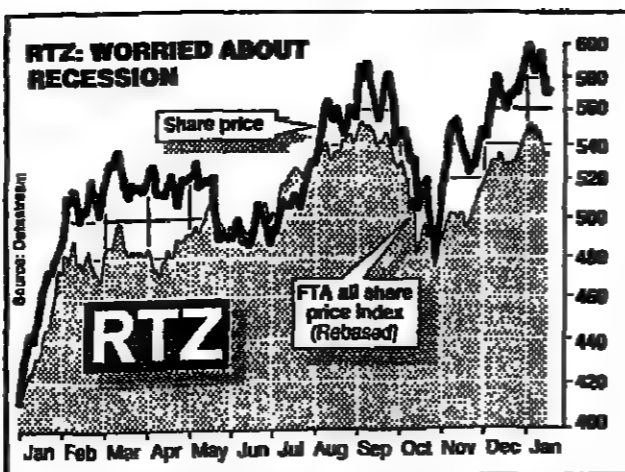
CSF, the French group, announced that it had withdrawn from bid talks. This withdrawal follows a similar move last month by Daimler, the West German group. Thomson is still exploring areas of co-operation with the troubled electronics group. Last week, Ferranti announced details of a £187 million rights issue and said that it is still in talks with three possible partners.

GEC fell 5p to 232p in sympathy with Ferranti, while Smith New Court, one of the few publicly-quoted market-makers, which suffered a hefty trading loss on Ferranti following the collapse in the share price last year and is

not everyone was impressed by the launch of STC's new range of ICL computers. UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, said it is similar to computers already on sale in the US and should have no long-term implications for the group. P&D still rates the shares, down 5p to 268p, as a sell.

now taking legal action, lost 5p to 94p.

Among the leaders, Lucas Industries stood out with a fall of 13p to 639p. Analysts, already worried that profits have been hit by the recently resolved Boeing strike, now fear the repercussions for the



group if the Ford dispute escalates. GKN fell 11p to 424p, also worried about Ford.

Sasatchi & Sasatchi, the troubled advertising agency, fell 11p to 231p after confirming that it had lost a £70 million (£43 million) corporate advertising account with Prudential Corporation of America. But the group would not comment on reports about job losses in London. The US account has been won by the rival Lowe Group, down 7p to 427p.

British Gas fell 7p to 221p despite the news of an oil find off the Lincolnshire coast. There is talk that Warburg Securities has downgraded its profit forecasts.

Standard Chartered, the international banking group,

was another depressed market, falling 11p to 552p after giving a warning that pre-tax profits this time would fall short of last year's £313 million.

The group blamed bad debts in Britain, corporate problems in Australia - thought to be related to the Bond Corporation - and the suspension of interest payments by Brazil. The price closed above its worst because some dealers believe that this latest setback for the group makes it even more vulnerable to a bid.

The rest of the banks suffered small falls in scrappy trading, cushioned by details of the proposed sale of the Yorkshire Bank. National Westminster, unchanged at 350p, owns 40 per cent of the

Yorkshire, Barclays, 2p easier at 558p, owns 32 per cent. Lloyds, 5p cheaper at 297p, 20 per cent and the Royal Bank of Scotland, 2p lighter at 201p, 8 per cent. Falls were also seen in Midland, 4p to 371p, Bank of Scotland, 2p to 116p, and Abbey National, 3p to 177p.

Worries about the effects of a recession sent RTZ tumbling 22p to 549p. The mark-down was prompted by the news of the drop in earnings at Alcoa, the world's biggest aluminium smelter, which accounted for a large part of the 33-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wednesday. RTZ also has big interests in aluminium and dealers fear that the downturn in the industry will take its toll on

profits. County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, was quick off the mark in downgrading its profit estimates this week. It was followed yesterday by a rival, Smith New Court. Analysts are also worried about the

heavy turnover in Asia Group this week, with 28 million shares traded. BZW, the broker, remains a seller because it thinks the shares, down 3p to 112p, are too dear on fundamentals and has recently downgraded a profits forecast. But the Belzberg continues to hold a 5 per cent stake.

Michael Clark

TOKYO

Nikkei retreats in volatile dealings

(Reuters) - Prices closed broadly lower after another day of volatile trading in which they fluctuated in a range of almost 500 points.

The Nikkei index sank 91.68 points, or 0.25 per cent, to 36,729.46. Late index-buying by foreign brokers lifted the index from its lows.

Falling bond prices, spurred by talk of another increase in the discount rate, caused a fair amount of the selling. Volume slipped to 530 million shares against 550 million on Wednesday. A Bank of Japan official said he knew of no plans to make any further changes in the discount rate.

Mr Shigeru Akiba, the head trader at UBS Phillips and Drew International, said: "We

can't see the bottom of the bond market right now and this is frightening investors."

A weak bond market was the main worry but a listless yen and political uncertainty also helped dampen trade. "Investors will be hesitant to do much buying before the elections," Lower House elections are expected on February 18.

● Hong Kong - The Hang Seng index closed 16.83 up to 2,771.67. The broader-based Hong Kong index advanced 10.88 to 1,820.05.

● Sydney - The All-Ordinaries index finished 7.7 up to 1,682.8.

● Frankfurt - The DAX index closed at 1,779.40 - 23.08 points, or 1.3 per cent, down.

NEW YORK

Dow makes early rally

(Reuters) - The Dow Jones industrial average was off 11 points at 2,648.13 in early trading after being down 18 points at the opening. Technical support and bargain buying were responsible for much of blue chips' recovery from opening lows. The gen-

eral market improved as well, although it was still lower.

Digital Equipment's profits dip and a 0.4 per cent rise in December consumer prices were as forecast.

● Singapore - The Straits Times industrial index fell 0.22 of a point to 1,532.82.

WALL STREET

	Jan 18	Jan 17		Jan 18	Jan 17		Jan 18	Jan 17		Jan 18	Jan 17
	close	close		close	close		close	close		close	close
Abbott Lab	86%	80%	Ervon	54	56%	20%	One Energy	42%	45		
Aetna Inc	17%	17%	Edco	29%	23%	25%	Pac Gas Inc	21%	47		
Air Prods	173	173	Edg	23%	23%	25%	Pac Gas Inc	21%	47		
Alcoa Inc	21%	21%	Edg	23%	23%	25%	Pac Gas Inc	21%	47		
Alcon A	21%	21%	Edg	23%	23%	25%	Pac Gas Inc	21%	47		
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Alcon A	21%	21%	Edg	23%	23%	25%	Pac Gas				

Gatt talks vital for saving world trade system, says Ridley

By Colin Nurbrough, Economics Correspondent

The outcome of the "Uruguay Round" negotiations on freer world trade, due for completion this year, could well determine the survival of the multilateral trading system, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said last night.

The talks, held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for the past three years, offered the best opportunity to put right the deficiencies in the present system of world trade, he said.

Addressing a Royal Institute of International Affairs conference in London, Mr Ridley said that it was essential to clear the ground as much as possible in the early part of this year, or there would be too much left for the final negotiations in December and the chance of agreement would be missed.

He said that an effective multilateral trading system must survive because a retreat into protectionism could lead to a collapse in both world trade and output.

The mess that the Eastern European economies were in not only reflected stifling state



Ridley: warning over talks control, but also 40 years of protection which had ensured that their products were uncompetitive, Mr Ridley said.

He welcomed the Soviet Union's request for observer status at the Gatt.

The Uruguay Round, named after the country that hosted the opening talks, is trying to widen trade liberalization beyond manufactures to services and agricultural goods.

Mr Ridley said that, although Britain's views on the Uruguay Round were transmitted through the European Community, the Government was underlining the value of opening up markets and would ensure that the EC's

single market remained open to the outside world.

Having led reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, Britain recognized that freer trade in farm products was essential.

Furthermore, it had concluded that various voluntary restraint agreements which had existed for some manufacturing industries imposed a net cost on the economy that could not be justified for more than a relatively short period.

Mr Ridley said that some countries had become increasingly reluctant to observe Gatt rules. Some, notably the United States, tended to use unilateral sanctions in disputes.

Miss Joan Spero, senior vice-president of American Express, said that freer services - particularly financial services - might be the Achilles Heel of the round.

While she saw a strong agreement on services as critical to the success of the round, she said developing countries opposed the inclusion of financial services because they regarded national control as a central tool in development and feared that their institutions could not compete with the industrial world.

Eagle Trust to cut debt with sale

By Jeremy Andrews

Eagle Trust, the engineering and film camera company, is selling its Manchester building's merchant outlet to BMSS.

Eagle owes £99 million to its banks and the move, which will reduce indebtedness by £4.7 million, is in line with the strategy of Mr David James, the chairman, of disposing of non-core businesses.

BMSS, also a builder's merchant, is paying £2.18 million for Grundy & Pilling, C Scott and freehold trading properties occupied by Grundy. It is also repaying inter-company loans of £536,000 and relieving Eagle Trust of the business' £2 million overdraft.

The move is a large step for BMSS, which is capitalized at only £9.3 million with its shares at 128p. Part of the cash has come from a placing of 700,000 shares at 122p by Albert E Sharp and £500,000 is being temporarily withheld until the accounts for the year to December have been finalized.

Siemens move

Siemens has applied to the Federal Card Office to take over Nixdorf Computer, a move announced by the company last week. A Siemens spokesman said the company expected to make its application to the European Community authorities next week.

Designs on expansion with £1.4m



Patterns for growth: George Oakes (left), head of the design studios, with David Green

Colefax and Fowler ahead

Colefax and Fowler, the interior design group which has decorated the Bank of England and Buckingham Palace, increased pre-tax profits by 96 per cent to £1.42 million on turnover which more than doubled to £13.2 million (Stephen Leather writes).

Earnings per share rose 22

per cent to 4.83p for the six months to end-October and the interim dividend is being raised from 1.1p to 1.3p.

"Export sales have increased by 36 per cent on the same period last year," he said.

In Western Europe, France is the group's largest market and the company is negotiating to open a representative office in Paris. Italy and Spain are the fast-growing markets, said Mr Green.

Wehmiller makes £9m aerosol purchase

By Sam Parkhouse

Barry Wehmiller is to become the world's leading aerosol machinery company by the acquisition of Melville Engineering from the Melville Group for £9 million in ordinary shares.

The purchase of the Melville aerosol-filling equipment business, to add to its US interests, will leave Wehmiller commanding a 40 per cent share of the world market, said Mr Stewart Brown, the chief executive.

Mr Edwin Bisset, Melville Group's chairman, said the engineering business is being sold to free financial resources for "exceptional growth prospects" in Carlton Building Services - which is Europe's largest exhibition contractor - and the Melville Construction division.

In a separate deal, Wehmiller is buying Manesty Machines from Renault for £6.75 million, also in ordinary shares. Manesty is the sole British maker of machines to press and coat tablets for the pharmaceutical industry.

Wehmiller is financing the acquisitions by issuing 7.07 million new shares at 280p. Wehmiller's shares, which have risen 10 per cent in the last month, lost 9p to 305p while the Melville Group gained 8p to 133p on the news.

Lloyds Abbey Life has record year for new business

By Our City Staff

Lloyds Abbey Life, the group created by the controversial £1.1 billion merger of Abbey Life with Lloyds Bank's Black Horse life insurance and estate agency subsidiaries, has reported record new business growth for 1989.

Regular premium life assurance business rose by 15 per cent to £172 million, while single premiums increased by 43 per cent to £492 million, boosted by the strong pensions market last year.

Mr Michael Hepher, chairman, said: "Particularly encouraging is the large rise in sales of the life and pensions products of Black Horse Financial Services - evidence of the growing relationship with Lloyds Bank."

The most dramatic increases came in sales of single premium pensions at Abbey Life, where the 347 per cent growth to £152 million accounted for four fifths of the single premium growth of the combined group. However, the rise is flattened by

comparison with 1988, which was a poor year for the single premium business.

The company was heartened by signs that the association with Abbey Life had improved the more important regular premium business at Black Horse, which rose by 16 per cent to £40.2 million.

Against that, analysts pointed to the lowly 4 per cent rise to £103 million in regular premiums at Abbey Life itself.

This came on top of a poor 1988 for Abbey Life in this field, which helped explain its eagerness to negotiate the merger with Lloyds Bank in the closing months of the year.

The most cheering feature, according to Mr Peter Constable, insurance analyst with Robert Fleming, was the much-improved performance of Abbey's overseas life subsidiaries.

Regular premium business in Germany doubled to £20 million and rose by 37 per cent to £8.3 million in the Republic of Ireland.

Growth in paper to fall back

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

After three years of 5 per cent annual growth Europe's paper industry saw a slackening in demand last year and the prospect is for growth "to settle back somewhat."

The forecast was from Mr Bo Wergens, director general of the Swedish Pulp and Paper Association, who was speaking in London. He said Swedish sales to the United Kingdom of paper and paperboard last year increased by 5 per cent.

There was growth especially in the demand for newsprint and writing paper grades. Pulp sales to the UK showed a slight decrease.

Britain's own paper producers benefited from a healthy increase in paper consumption during 1989, he added.

Despite the coming slowdown there was still a satisfactory increase for the industry, said Mr Wergens. He added: "It should be possible to sustain increased turnover and satisfactory profits for the industry, with high operating rates for most grades."

But Mr Wergens warned European producers that more north American pulp and paper may come on the Western Europe market because the United States market was still less buoyant with demand virtually unchanged for the last two years.

Over the longer-term the prospects were bright, said Mr Wergens.

Statement today on Temple bid

Sea Containers' board was meeting in New York last night to consider the offer from Temple, the Anglo-Swedish consortium.

Under the terms of the deal, Tiphook, the British group, would buy its container leasing operations and Stena the Sealink ferries service.

Last night's meeting was also considering a revised recapitalization plan. A statement is expected today.

Plateau issue

A parcel of 7.8 million shares, or 41.8 per cent, of Plateau Mining, the exploration company, were placed yesterday with institutions at 90p a share, raising a net £6.5 million. A 1-for-4 offer of 8.5 million shares is being made to shareholders of Robertson Group.

Kyowa shares

Kyowa Bank, ranked 33rd in the world, was capitalized at £7.8 billion yesterday when it began trading on the Stock Exchange. Shares closed where they started at £6.15 after reaching a high of £6.20. Total volume was small at 900,000 shares.

Alcatel stake

Alcatel, the French telecommunications company, has acquired 49 per cent of Finom Mechanikai Vallat, of Budapest, to increase joint penetration of the microwave market in Comecon countries.

Trace the Family tree

Find out which bank has the shrewdest customers and why high mortgage rates are adding to the number of illicit tenants in *Family Money* to borrow. Compensating investors

comes under scrutiny and safe, risky and expensive investments are checked out. There are also some thoughts on the danger of tall trees in your neighbour's garden.

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pared with 1985 was up at 88.1 (day)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES		OTHER STERLING RATES	
Market rates for January 18		Argentina austral ^a	2000 to 2004 0.000000

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

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00	W Germany	1.7050-1.7057	Bo

MONEY MARKETS

Finance Fee 15%	EURO MON
Fixed 14%	Currency 7 d

GOLD BULLION (Per ounce)

Open: \$414.00-414.50 C
High: \$415.00-415.50 L

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 9, 1989. Agreed rates Jan 24, 1990 to Feb 25, 1990.

Platinum pm fix: \$500.80
Palladium pm fix: \$135.7

SE 100		Previous open interest 23940				Three month ECU		Previous open interest 1838		Vol	
		Low	High	Low	High			Low	High		
Mar 90	2377.0	2384.0	2345.0	2380.0	7465	Mar 90	85.58	86.80	88.55	89.50	1838
Jun 90	2420.0	2430.0	2404.0	2403.0	133	Jun 90	86.58	87.80	89.55	90.50	

open interest 131896	US Treasury Bond
55 84.74 37757	Mar 90

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LONDON METAL

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Edited by Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

3i plans to invest more than £100m helping start-ups

By Derek Harris

3i, the former Investors in Industry which is owned by the high street banks and the Bank of England, is almost doubling its commitment to helping businesses just starting up.

It expects to help at least 250 start-ups in 1990 - 50 more than last year. However, this is probably a conservative estimate because 3i is increasing its investment chest for the start-up sector from last year's £60 million to more than £100 million. 3i says it is already funding about half the start-up set up through use of venture capital.

No ceiling is being imposed on the total of start-up investment. The main constraint on growth for this side of the business is expected to come from a shortfall of promising business plans.

Average 3i investment in the early months of a new company's life tends to hover between £30,000 and £40,000.

However, 3i, which is Britain's biggest single provider of venture capital, has always attempted to meet the needs of smaller start-ups - just as they appear to have potential. Therefore, investments in the region of £30,000 have been made.

Venture capital providers have been coming under fire lately for being less willing to help start-ups. It has been more tempting to

become involved in increasingly fashionable management buyouts and buy-ins or to go for the comparative safety of funding businesses at a later stage when their vulnerability or success can be more easily judged.

The 3i move is therefore especially welcome at a time when small businesses are finding it more difficult to service high interest bank loans as a source of development cash.

The 3i cash is also patient money: it is often 10 years or more before 3i sees a return on its investment.

MR FRIDAY



"I know the feeling"

Past takes a seat in present

By Rodney Hobson

In a Grade II listed building, Peter and Julie Gilbert carry on a business of equal historic interest. They make chair seats and backs from cane and rush.

The brick and timber building is the last remaining cane shop dating from Victorian times in High Wycombe, a Buckinghamshire town renowned for its crafts. Wycombe Cane and Rush Works was established in 1880 and remained in the founding Holt family until 20 years ago, possibly owing its survival to family pride.

Mrs Gilbert, the master craftsman of the outfit, was working for the firm when the owners retired 10 years ago and she and her husband took over the business.

Mr Gilbert said: "It has been part of the history of Wycombe as a furniture town. We are probably the last people using the same methods as were used 100 and 200 years ago. It is one of those old crafts that have had their day as a viable concern."

None the less, the Gilberts are making a go of it, helped by renewed interest in older crafts and hand-made goods. The business came with a staff of 15 women in their 70s and 80s who had learned the art from their mothers and who had always lived in the town. Since then, they have all retired, but not before passing on the finer points of the trade to the Gilberts. Mr Gilbert also took a production and management course at college.

There are now five workers, including the Gilberts. Most business is repair work, but some new



Keeping tradition alive: Julie Gilbert (right) and one of her staff at Wycombe Cane and Rush Works

furniture is made for shops. A chair seat can be completed in less than four hours.

English rushes are too thick, so 2,000 kilos of Dutch rushes are bought each year. A chair takes about 5 to 6 kilos. Mr Gilbert said: "We could buy more cheaply through suppliers in this country, but they did not know the quality

of the rushes they were buying. We try to maintain a reputation for the quality of our work."

Cane is a bigger worry. Indonesia, the world's biggest supplier, has put a surcharge on exports to try to increase its own share of processing raw materials. Recruiting and keeping skilled labour in the competitive South-

east is another problem. Mr Gilbert said: "All the training has to be done by us."

It can be a year before a new worker becomes profitable to us. That is one aspect of the traditional craft life gone for good: up to the last war, apprentices paid for the privilege of working for the first year.

Smart prize of £29m for innovation

By Nick Nuttall

The 1990 UK Smart competition, which is aimed at helping small businesses which have innovative products close to being marketed, was launched this week by Mr Douglas Hogg, the industry minister.

About £29 million has been allocated for this year's Small Firms Merit Award for Research and Technology - the only state funding left for near-market research and development. Mr Hogg emphasized that about 90 per cent of the funds, to be spent over three years, will end up in the pockets of winning businesses with just £150,000 going on promotion.

Mr Hogg has also started an examination of how this scheme can be improved. The recommendations are expected later this year and may include more scope for businesses with more than 50 employees.

Although these Government awards are made mainly for innovations which are close to fruition, the DTI emphasized that previous Smart awards have been made to high-risk and esoteric ventures.

A pilot Smart scheme was launched in 1986 with 20 awards which have since grown to more than 100 winners.

In March, 1989 a three-year programme was announced in which winners can receive up to £37,500 for the first year and, subject to approval, enter stage two of SMART, worth up to £50,000.

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Price Waterhouse

The Multi Purpose Convention Centre being developed at Greenpark, Linerick, is being designed to provide the Shannon region with a major indoor facility extending to some 40,000 sq.ft. and capable of accommodating up to 8,000 persons for a wide variety of Convention, Entertainment, Exhibition and Sporting Events.

The Promoters of the project Shannon Free Airport Development Co. Ltd., Linerick Corporation and Linerick Properties Company Ltd are inviting proposals from companies with relevant experience in the areas of design, management and event promotion to undertake the management, operation and promotion of the Centre.

A project brief which provides further information in relation to the Centre and the relevant Application Form for interested persons management operations may be had from:
P.O. Box 104, P.O. Waterford,
Greenpark, Linerick, PO Box 7,
Sarsfield House, Francis Street,
Limerick, Ireland.

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Amount of Mortgage	Net Monthly Interest Payment Year 1
£60,000	£393.31
£75,000	£505.68
£90,000	£618.06

The difference between the rate charged and the rate paid, being deferred until year 5, when your mortgage will be re-calculated to include the deferred interest, at the prevailing rate in year 6.

Typical example: £50,000 x 300 months = net monthly payment Year 1 = £283.31, 2 = £287.06, 3 = £290.81, 4 = £294.56, 5 = £298.31. Mortgage now re-calculated at year 6 now £28,000. Net payment year 6 = £282.50. APR 14.3.

The above scheme may be used to repay an existing mortgage, or for clearing other commitments such as credit cards, hire purchase, bank loans, along with various other secondary borrowing.

For further information on how this scheme may be of benefit to you, together with written details and a quotation from your local consultant, please telephone

0800 378662 or (0326) 211416.

Loans are secured on your property and may be linked to Life Assurance Policy. Appointed Representative of London & Manchester Assurance Company Limited. Member of LAUTRO - A wholly owned subsidiary of London and Manchester Group Plc.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PROPERTY developer requires a business partner for the sale of properties in the south of England. The partner will be responsible for the sale of properties and will receive a percentage of the profit. The partner will also be responsible for the management of the properties. The partner will also be responsible for the marketing of the properties. The partner will also be responsible for the legal aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the financial aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the operational aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the administrative aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the technical aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the human resources aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the information technology aspects of the sale. The partner will also be responsible for the legal aspects of the sale. 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Court of Appeal

Means and ability to redevelop must be shown

Edwards v Thompson
Before Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss
[Judgment January 17]

A landlord of business premises could not successfully oppose a tenant's application for a new tenancy on the ground that he wished to redevelop the holding without establishing that he had both the means and the ability to carry out the proposed development in its entirety.

Unless he had a settled intention to do the work, section 30(1)(f) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 did not entitle him to an order for possession against the tenant.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the tenant, Mr Leslie Edwards, from Judge Hammett's order in April 1989 in Eastbourne County Court refusing his application for a new tenancy from his landlord, Mrs Carolamber Thompson.

Section 30(1) of the 1954 Act provides that the grounds on which a landlord may oppose an application by a tenant for the grant of a new tenancy include: (f) that on the termination of the current tenancy the landlord intends to demolish or reconstruct the premises comprised in the holding or a substantial part of those premises or to carry out substantial work of construction on the holding or part thereof and that he could not reasonably do so without obtaining possession of the holding.

Mr Patrick Ground, QC and Mr Ian McCulloch for the tenant, Mr Christopher Smyth for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the premises, The Forge, West Street, Alfriston, were part of a larger area of land that included a barn and orchard. The tenant occupied the smithy for the purposes of his business. His tenancy was protected by the provisions of Part II of the 1954 Act.

In 1984 planning permission had been granted for the development of the property by the conversion of the barn and smithy to a single dwelling and the construction of five other dwellings, garages and an access road.

That permission was subject to conditions that included the construction of an estate road and prohibition against any occupation until completion of the whole of the development.

The proposed conversion was not feasible without vacant possession of the smithy. Thus the landlord had served on the tenant a notice under section 25 of the Act determining his tenancy and stating that she would oppose an application for a new tenancy on the ground mentioned in section 30(1)(f).

Judge Hammett had refused the tenant's application for a new tenancy holding that the landlord had made out that she had the necessary intention to carry out the reconstruction.

The sole question for the court was whether the landlord had shown that she intended to carry out the reconstruction within the meaning of section 30(1)(f), as laid down by earlier authorities.

In *Reokov v Barry Corporation* [1956] 1 WLR 845, 849 Lord Justice Denning said that an "intention" to carry out work "connotes an ability to carry it into effect"; see also *per Lord Evered*, Master of the Rolls, in *Fleet Electric Ltd v Jacey Investments Ltd* [1956] 1 WLR 1027.

But before considering how the facts of the case stood in the light of those authorities, it should be said that the tenant's case was presented with a different emphasis from the case which had been put to Judge Hammett.

Mr Ground now relied on the failure of the landlord to show that she had the means and ability, or a settled intention not likely to be changed, to carry out not simply the conversion of the barn and smithy but also the remainder and major part of the development.

He founded his submission on the conditions on which planning permission had been granted: none of the dwellings could be occupied until the whole development, including the new access road, was completed.

Accepting that submission so far, the evidence showed that the landlord had detailed specifications and a builder for the conversion of the barn and

smithy at a price of £146,425. Further, she had made arrangements for a building loan of £170,000 for 18 months.

Had the proposal been one simply for the conversion of the barn and smithy, the means and ability of the landlord to carry it out and a settled intention to do so, would have been fully established.

But as that was not the proposal it was necessary to consider the remainder of the development. The landlord intended the remainder of the development to be carried out at the same time but by an independent developer, possibly by way of a building lease whereby she would retain control.

However, she had not selected a developer and had no estimates as to costs. Further, if a good offer had been received for the whole area, the landlord agreed that she might have accepted it.

Mr Ground suggested that her continuing readiness to consider such an offer was evidence that her intention in the matter was not settled. But that suggestion was rejected.

Doubtless the landlord had a bona fide intention that the remainder of the development should be carried out at the same time as the conversion of the barn and smithy. But one fatal objection stood in her way.

Without further exploration there was no certainty, nor any high probability, nor even, it was the correct test, a

reasonable prospect, that a developer would, within the time limit prescribed by section 30(1)(f), agree to pay the landlord a price which she would be prepared to accept.

The intention required was an intention to carry out the reconstruction "on the termination of the current tenancy". Had the point been specifically put to Judge Hammett, it was unlikely that he would have been satisfied that that requirement was met.

There was a very real possibility that an acceptable price would not be received within a period which would allow the conversion of the barn and the smithy to be carried out on the termination of the tenant's current tenancy.

It might well have been necessary to wait a number of months or even longer.

The landlord had not shown that she had the means and ability, or a firm and settled intention not likely to be changed, to carry out the conversion of the barn and the smithy at the necessary time.

On that simple but fundamental ground - which, it was to be emphasized, had not been specifically put to the judge - the tenant was entitled to succeed. On that footing the parties agreed that he should be granted a new tenancy of the smithy.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: John Healy & Co, Wymondley, Bedfordshire; Barter Godfrey, Bedford.

Employer is not provider of employee's pension

Smoker (Alexander) v London Fire and Civil Defence Authority
Before Mr Justice Auld
[Judgment January 12]

It was wrong when considering pension entitlements in the context of loss of earnings following a personal injury, where the employer was the tortfeasor, to characterize the employer as the provider of a pension which, even when non-contributory, the employee had earned and therefore himself provided by his services.

Receipts of ill-health awards and higher pension benefits payable to a party injured were not deductible from damages received whether the tortfeasor was the party's employer or not.

Mr Justice Auld so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment in favour of the plaintiff, Mr Alexander Smoker, in his claim for lost earnings without deduction for pension and early retirement benefits.

Mr Richard Clegg, QC, Mr Allan Gore and Mr Martin Seward for the plaintiff, Mr Michael Wright, QC and Miss Kerstin Boyd for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE AULD said the plaintiff had been injured as a result of the negligence of his employer, the defendant fire authority. He had been forced as a result of the injury to retire two years earlier than he would otherwise have expected and from the date of his retirement received payments from the pension fund.

The fire authority claimed that those payments should be deducted from the sum claimed as special damages for loss of earnings.

Where they entitled to deduct those receipts of ill-health and injury awards under the Fireman's Pension Scheme and to make a further deduction for the higher pension benefits he would now receive as a result of the injury.

The answer turned on whether the rule in *Parry v Cleaver* [1970] AC 1 - that a pension should be ignored in assessing an injured claimant's financial loss - applied both to the tortfeasor as the employer and "provider" of the pension and where he was not.

That approach was approved by the Court of Appeal in *Tipton v British Railways Board* [1975] Ch 146, 161, 172 by Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and by Lord Justice Stamp.

Therefore the appropriate course in this case was to strike out the plaintiff's claim unless the plaintiff was prepared to accept at trial that the injury was caused by the negligence of the defendant and that the plaintiff was not entitled to a deduction for the pension benefits.

That was very close to the line adopted by the court in cases where a plaintiff had signed an express contract of indemnity. That sterilized the land in the hands of the estate owner who was

unable to sell the property until trial.

In a clear case the court could order an unjustified contribution to be vacated. But often the validity or otherwise of the plaintiff's claim could not be established until trial.

In *Cleaver v The Trustees of the Fireman's Pension Scheme* [1974] 1 WLR 243, Mr Justice Templeman took the course of saying that even though the plaintiff had an arguable case, the registration of his estate contract was to be vacated if the plaintiff applied for an interim injunction to restrain the owner from disposing of the land supported by the usual cross-understanding in damages.

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Final injunction with no cross-understanding struck out

Blue Town Investments Ltd v Higgs & Hill plc
Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor
[Judgment January 10]

Where a plaintiff's claim for a final injunction fell short of being unarguable but nevertheless appeared very unlikely to succeed at trial, the court could strike out the claim as being vexatious unless the plaintiff was prepared to give the court an undertaking in damages to compensate the defendant in case at trial the plaintiff's claim failed.

Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division on a motion by Higgs & Hill plc to strike out paragraphs 1 and 2 of Blue Town Investments Ltd's statement of claim which had sought injunctions ordering the defendant to pull down or not to put up so much of its block of flats at 10 Finchley Road, London, as obstructed the access of light so as to cause a nuisance to the plaintiff's windows at 12 Finchley Road.

Mr Andrew Lydiard for Higgs & Hill; Mr Stephen Bickford-Smith for Blue Town Investments.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the defendant company was developing a building site adjacent to the plaintiff's property. The plaintiff alleged that the planned development

would obstruct a right of light.

The defendant had already invested some £7,300,000 in the development. If the work were halted by an interim injunction the annual cost to the defendant would be between £500,000 and £1,000,000. Therefore an interim injunction would have required a cross-understanding in damages in very large figures indeed.

During the course of negotiations prior to the hearing it was accepted by the surveyors for both sides that the value of the right of light in question was about £7,500.

The plaintiff had deliberately avoided seeking an interlocutory injunction in order to avoid having to give the undertaking in damages which the court would require to compensate the defendant in case at trial the plaintiff's claim failed.

Instead the plaintiff sought by writ issued on October 13, 1989 a final injunction ordering the defendant to pull down and restrain the building of the block of flats at 10 Finchley Road, London, as obstructed the access of light so as to cause a nuisance to the plaintiff's windows.

The defendant's motion sought to strike out the plaintiff's claim to the injunction on the ground that it was vexatious or an abuse of the court's process.

In his Lordship's judgment, it was almost inconceivable that the plaintiff's claim would succeed at trial, for during the negotiations the defendant had effectively been offered a choice either to modify its scheme of development in order to avoid infringing the plaintiff's right of light or to proceed with the intended plan but to pay the plaintiff compensation.

The defendant elected to continue with the projected development and the plaintiff appeared to accept that. In the light of the plaintiff's conduct in standing by since election it would have difficulty at trial in claiming that it had not acquiesced in the development; it was probably therefore at best entitled to damages.

Standing by and watching a man proceeding on the basis of a mistaken belief as to the law, round and claiming equitable relief such as an injunction was conduct *par excellence* that disentitled a plaintiff to that equitable relief.

But although the plaintiff's chances of obtaining an injunction at trial were minimal, the burden on a party seeking to strike out an opponent's claim was a heavy one and only in the clearest and most obvious cases should an order be made.

The evidence at trial might conceivably alter the position and in those circumstances his Lordship was not prepared to

strike out the plaintiff's claim as wholly unarguable.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, in a case where a plaintiff had stood by in asserting his right to an injunction and had apparently allowed the defendant to go ahead with the development on the basis that it was prepared to accept most compensation, it was not reasonable for the plaintiff to seek relief at trial by injunction without being prepared to compensate the defendant for taking the steps to ensure that the defendant's damage was as little as possible.

The defendant, faced with the threat of an injunction, either had to discontinue the work or proceed at the risk of having to pay a half to one million pounds to meet the claim of a plaintiff who was not prepared to pay in return for the injunction being proceeding in the event the plaintiff's claim at trial turned out to be as thin as it appeared.

In those circumstances it was legitimate for the court to say it was vexatious to claim an injunction at trial without being prepared to give the court an undertaking in damages to compensate the defendant if the claim proved insubstantial.

That was very close to the line adopted by the court in cases where a plaintiff had signed an express contract of indemnity. That sterilized the land in the hands of the estate owner who was

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European Law Report

Fishing crew residence requirement irrelevant to aim of quota system

The Queen v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Ex parte Aggregat Ltd
Case C3/87

The Queen v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Ex parte Jaderow Ltd and Others
Case C2/87

Before G. D. Due, President, and Kouris, Sir Gordon Slynn, C. N. Kakouris, F. A. Schockweiler, T. Koopmans, G. F. Mancini, R. Jotić, T. F. O'Higgins, G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, F. Greville and M. Díez de Velasco (Advocates General).

(Opinions November 18, 1988) [Judgments December 14, 1989]

A requirement that 75 per cent of a crew of a fishing vessel had to reside ashore in the territory of a member state was a condition for the authorization of the vessel to fish against the fishing quotas attributed to that state was irrelevant to the aim of the quota system and could not be justified by that aim.

Conditions designed to ensure that there was a real economic link between a vessel authorized to fish against national quotas and the member state in question might be justified if the purpose of such conditions was that the population dependent on fisheries and related industries should benefit from the quotas.

UK fishing legislation
Under the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967, as amended by the Fisheries Act 1976 and the Fisheries Act 1981, fishing vessels registered in the United Kingdom had to have a fishing licence.

That legislation had been supplemented by the British Fishing Boats Act 1983, the British Fishing Boats Order 1983 and the Sea Fish Licensing Order 1983.

The fishing licences granted pursuant to that legislation by the UK authorities as from January 1, 1986 determined the fishing areas and the species of fish covered by the licences and stated the conditions which had to be fulfilled cumulatively at all times, failing which the licences would be revoked.

The purpose of those conditions was to ensure that fishing vessels had a "real economic link" with the UK. They concerned first, the operation of the vessel for which the licence was granted and, second, its crew.

The conditions relating to the operation of the fishing vessel required it to operate from the United Kingdom, Isle of Man or Channel Islands as provided that a vessel would be deemed to have been so operating if for each six-month period in the calendar year either (a) at least 50 per cent by weight of the vessel's landings were landed and sold in the UK, Isle of Man or Channel Islands, or (b) other evidence was provided of the

vessel's presence in the UK, Isle of Man or Channel Islands ports on at least four occasions at intervals of at least 15 days.

The conditions relating to the crew of the fishing vessel required at least 75 per cent of the crew to be British citizens or persons registered in the UK on January 1, 1993 any Spanish or Portuguese national ordinarily resident on shore in the UK, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands, and that the skipper and all the crew had to be making contributions to UK National Insurance or the equivalent Isle of Man or Channel Islands schemes.

The main proceedings
The applicant in Case C3/87 was the owner of a fishing vessel which was registered in the UK and flew the British flag. The crew of the vessel was partly composed of Spanish share fishermen, that is to say fishermen who were remunerated by a share of the proceeds of sale of their catches.

10

RUGBY LEAGUE

AGRICULTURE: Australia, China, Germany and Japan. Poultry B sees Canada, South Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain and the Soviet Union.

This weekend, the women's home countries indoor tournament has been switched from Birmingham to Crystal Palace. Australia are also taking part.

ENGLAND: J Thompson (South), G Jones (Wales), S Williams (Scotland) (highpoint), J Smith (Swansea), S Chandler (Sunder), L Bealington (Chester-le-Strade), M Jones (Cardiff) (lowpoint), C Liddle (Exeter), J Simons (Chesham), J Lewis (Leeds), R Edwards (Chesham).

SCOTLAND: S Lewis, J Stewart, M Jones, E Murray, A Christie, S Beeson, G Messenger, W Fraser, A Sims, E Muir, E Muir.

IRELAND: N Connolly, D Conway, O'Brien, J Burns, R Campbell, K Howard, P Murphy, J McManis, J Monaghan, G Murphy, A Smith, L Westrich.

WALES: H Morgan, M Lewis, L Harris, S Thomas, J Evans, J Jones, C Jones, C Campelly, K Rodwell, F McGuerry, S Bettison, J Williams.

AUSTRALIAN TUNINGUP: S Smith, T Ellis, L Cole, N Collins, J Brown, J Lambart, C Hodges, K Richards, E Orr, K Whelan.

International Equestrian Federation, a post previously held by the late Sir John Whitaker, who is sure to be heavily challenged by Ricky Chaplin, an Englishman fighting for Wales. In the heavyweight class, England's Mark Thomas fourth behind the Nigerian, who is sure to be heavily challenged by Ricky Chaplin, an Englishman fighting for Wales. In the heavyweight class, England's Mark Thomas fourth behind the Nigerian, who is sure to be heavily challenged by Ricky Chaplin, an Englishman fighting for Wales.

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CRICKET: TO BE NEUTRAL OR NOT TO BE NEUTRAL, THE CALL FOR THE FORMATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF IMPARTIAL UMPIRES GROWS EVER LOUDER

ICC urged to consider captains' orders

From John Woodcock
Adelaide

The call for an international panel of umpires, to be drawn on as and when opposing countries wish, is now too widely heard and significantly supported to be postponed beyond the next meeting, in England in the summer, of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Seldom a Test match passes these days, let alone a whole series, without the captains espousing the cause, believing it to be the best way of eliminating controversy.

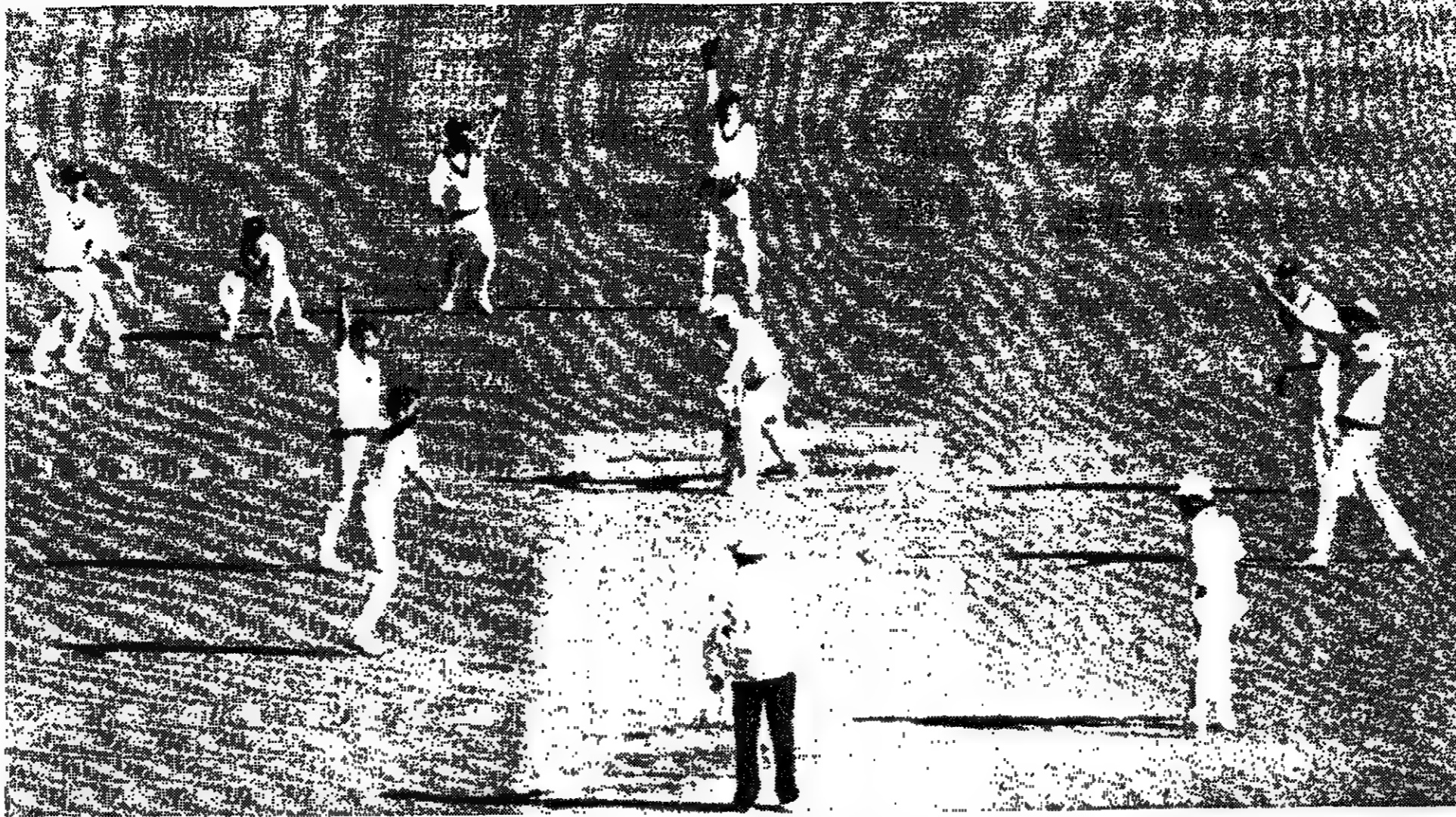
Allan Border and Imran Khan are powerful advocates of what they call "neutrality". So is Viv Richards. So, almost without exception, are the other Test captains, together with their managers.

Imran says that having two Englishmen umpiring Pakistan's recent series with India was the making of it. "For the first time in many years it was a pleasant series. The crowds accepted the umpires' decisions and so did the Press and the players, although they were sometimes the wrong ones."

That the last World Cup in India and Pakistan passed off without any suggestion this or that match was rigged, or this or that umpire had cheated, was because umpires never stood in matches involving their own countries.

Much the same Australian side which had been more than satisfied with the performance of Mahboob Shah, of Pakistan, in the final against England in India, was convinced that he was nothing but a bouncer when he began to give them out in a Test in Karachi a year later.

In Australia's series with Pakistan, which started only a week ago, there is already dissatisfaction. Among Pakistanis because of the frequency with which they were adjudged leg-before in the first Test; and among Australians because the way it happened — six leg-before in Pakistan's second innings, including the



Court of appeal: Australian fielders arise in unison, pressuring the umpire into a decision, as Terry Alderman, the bowler, attempts to claim a Pakistani wicket. The verdict was "out"

last wicket as time was fast running out — has been allowed to detract from their victory.

In Australia, and also, I believe, the West Indies, umpires are not themselves enamoured at the idea of an international panel — a view shared by the Australian Cricket Board (ACB), who will discuss the issue today.

"Most umpires reach their peak between 40 and 50, and only the English are full-time professionals. The rest of us have other jobs," Tony Crafter, one of Australia's most experienced umpires,

said. "How can you expect a man of that vintage to chuck in his job, his career, his superannuation, just to go on an international panel? If he fails dismally, he could be out of a job."

Peter McConnell, one of the umpires in the recent Test in Melbourne, said: "I know how high the ball bounces in Perth and how much it spins in Sydney, but I am not sure about pitches in Karachi and Christchurch or at Lord's."

"Local knowledge is a big thing for umpires and I worry that, after a year of neutral umpiring, the players would

revert to their criticism for different reasons. The umpires will cop it in the neck, anyway."

There is some truth in all that. There are also administrative difficulties to be overcome, none of them anything like insuperable.

Colin Egar, himself a former Test umpire and now chairman of the ACB, was talking of the possibilities of an international panel as long ago as 1982 at a seminar in Sri Lanka.

Since then, the call for one has got progressively more urgent. "Everywhere you go

there are problems about the umpiring... the game is suffering as a result," Imran has said.

It is, in fact, that as many series would pass without sides choosing to use a panel as with their doing so. England and Australia would almost certainly settle for the status quo. I imagine most sides going to England would, as well as the majority of those coming to Australia.

On the other hand, if Pakistan had been granted their wish and been allowed neutral umpires for their last series against England in Pakistan,

the infamous altercation between Mike Gatting and Shakoor Rana would never have happened.

It is not a matter of neutral umpires being compulsory, but of an official panel being available for those who think that a series would be improved by their using it. As a way of gaining experience, home umpires could be given control, by right, of all one-day internationals.

The umpiring would not necessarily have been much different had John Hampshire and John Holder, for example, been standing at Melbourne a

few days ago, and, to give them their due, the Pakistanis took their disappointment uncommonly well.

There would not have been the same potential, though, for discontentment had Pakistan had the chance before the series started, even if they had not taken it, of having a couple of outside arbiters.

I cannot believe that it is beyond the wit of the ICC to ally Australian fears, devise a scheme that is financially and socially attractive to all umpires, and to give it, say, a two-year trial. But do let's get on with it.

Captains three on Sky TV's tour team

By Steve Acton

Trans World International (TWI), the Mark McCormack-owned television company, which is to provide live ball-by-ball coverage on Sky Television of England's international fixtures during the forthcoming tour to the West Indies, as well as edited highlights for the BBC, yesterday announced its team of commentators.

Tony Greig, who will be Sky's anchorman, and Tony Lewis, who will anchor the BBC programmes, will provide commentary with the West Indian journalist, Tony Cozier. A third former England captain, Geoff Boycott, will be used as a match analyst.

TWI will also provide programmes to a US cable station which serves America's West Indian, Pakistani and Indian communities.

This will be the first time that an England tour of the West Indies has been shown live in Britain, and TWI is hoping, eventually, to make a profit on an initial outlay which is in excess of £1 million.

The company will be taking out three and a half tons of equipment, including seven cameras, and 16 staff. Another four technicians are being drafted in from the United States and six more have been recruited in the West Indies. An Antigua and Barbuda, TWI will use a 35-foot truck with an eight-metre satellite dish to beam the signal to British viewers via the Intelsat satellite, Major Path One.

A total of 20 hours of live coverage will be available to Sky's 1.15 million subscribers from the five Tests and five one-day games, from early afternoon to late evening.

Cameras will be mounted at both ends and a high-powered portable special effects microphone will be employed.

TWI's coverage will also include England's off-field activities and Bill Sturich, the executive producer, said: "We will not shy away from anything that appears to be controversial. We are not going to stir up trouble nor act as a catalyst for it but we won't turn our heads away because we want to be seen to be independent, both on and off the pitch."

Pride will be tourists' best asset

From Richard Streeten
Johannesburg

The only certainty, as the English cricketers under Mike Gatting left last night for South Africa, is that a considerable drama is about to unfold. Their own fierce professional pride and determination to do well should be the greatest asset as they try to put aside any mental turmoil still lingering.

They have, let it be stressed, made a choice given them by the International Cricket Council's own rules. During the coming years of banishment, they will have ample time to reflect whether their decision was right. Disillusionment with the English game was a factor for several. In the view of their detractors, though, these cricketers are guilty of moral myopia by putting lucrative cash rewards ahead of all else. Reviled in too many minds a certain stigma will always remain attached to their names. That much is indisputable at this juncture, in spite of the unquestionable changes for the better taking place in South Africa. This background, however unpalatable, has to be

TOUR ITINERARY AND PARTY

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Captains three on Sky TV's tour team

By Steve Acton

Trans World International (TWI) has announced its television tour team, which will provide live commentary on the world's best horses during the forthcoming season. The team, which will be based in London, will include three of the world's leading horsemen: Sir Michael Stoute, Sir John Gosden and Sir Henry Cecil.

The team will be joined by a number of other leading horsemen, including Sir Mark Tappin, Sir Peter Blood and Sir John Moore. The team will provide live commentary on the world's best horses during the forthcoming season, which will include the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness Stakes and the Belmont Stakes.

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Sri Lanka are held up by Waldron effort

By Steve Acton

Sri Lanka's cricket team has been held up by a brilliant effort from the batsman, who has scored a century in the first innings of the first Test match against India.

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nes training

The training of the horses for the forthcoming season is well advanced, and the horses are in good condition for the start of the season.

SULTS

The results of the races at Kempton Park on Friday, January 19, 1990, are as follows:

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Sudden Victory to make the grade

By Mandarini (Michael Phillips)

Sudden Victory, an impressive winner in the hands of Kevin Mooney at Plumpton nine days ago, is napped to follow up against stronger opposition in the Ashford Novices' Hurdle at Kempton today.

If, as I anticipate, he passes this test with flying colours, a crack at the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury is a distinct possibility. Victory today would not incur a penalty for that big Newbury handicap in which he has been allotted 10st 4lb.

On the flat, Sudden Victory would be rated superior to all his rivals at Newbury, having finished a most creditable second in the group three St Simon Stakes at Newbury in the autumn.

Over hurdles, he has less in



Kevin Mooney has ride on Sudden Victory at Kempton

hand but still sufficient in my view. For instance, when Sudden Victory was runner-up to Decided over today's course and distance last February, Riverhead was 2½ lengths behind in fourth place. They

meet now on the same terms. In the meantime, Riverhead has again finished fourth at Kempton, 1½ lengths behind Empire Blue, when both were held at bay by Tynnyland and Gassid. Riverhead has since won easily at Folkestone.

Useful form that both Gold Service and Pearl Prospect can flaunt, it still does not compare with that of Sudden Victory, whose confidence should have been boosted by that easy win at Plumpton.

Another win for Sudden Victory will certainly highlight the chance that Regal Lake has of capturing the Walton Novices' Hurdle later in the programme. For having won his first race under National Hunt rules easily enough at Taunton, Jenny Pittman's four-year-old was then second to my nap at Plumpton.

In this instance, though, I

feel that he may well have to play second fiddle yet again, this time to Royal Square. A useful recruit from Flat racing, Royal Square is trained at Pulborough by Guy Harwood.

Having had a race over the Kempton fences already, For The Grain can take to his advantage in the Sunbury Novices' Chase, for which Certain Style and Pendenis could prove to be rather inexperienced.

Springholm, who like For The Grain is trained by David Nicholson at Condote, contests the Easter Hero Handicap Chase but he seems at his best when receiving weight from better horses rather than when giving weight away.

In this instance, I feel that the concession of 17lb to the Plumpton winner, breakfast Car, could well prove beyond him.

At Towcester, Charlie Brooks and Ben de Haan can team up to land a double with Kanti King (1.15) and Canford Palm (3.45).

A particularly like the chance of Canford Palm, who showed signs of returning to his best when third to Kittinger at Leicester last time and does not look harshly treated, even with top weight, in the Labrador Handicap Chase.

Nigel Tinkler and Graham McCourt could well follow suit at Caterick with Ramus (2.0) and Fisherman's Craft (4.0).

Ramus, a winner at the Festival of British Racing at Ascot in September when trained by Clive Brittain, shaped well when sixth to Steppes Lane on his hurdling debut at Haydock and is less severely tested in the Malby Novices' Hurdle.

KEMPTON PARK

Selections By Mandarini

1.30 Mount Oliver. 2.00 Sudden Victory (asp). 2.30 For The Grain.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.00 SENEAGAL (map).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 FOR THE GRAIN.

Going: good

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Guide to our in-line racecard

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Ladbroke's Webber the only one to anticipate

Thyestes triumph

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Mweenish surprised the Irish handicapper and Gowran Park racegoers but not his trainer, John Webber, when romping home a 20-1 winner of the 125,000 Tote Gold Cup at the 125,000 Tote Gold Cup yesterday. His shorter-priced stable companion, Auric Dot, finished third.

As the field rounded the final turn, a Webber one-two looked very much on the cards with his two runners drawing clear of the long-time leader, Langan's Wine.

Mweenish, fifth in last season's Sun Alliance Chase, stayed on strongly to win by 12 lengths but Langan's Wine rallied close home to deprive Auric Dot of second place by half a length.

Another six lengths further back came one of the three 7-1 joint-favourites, Lastofibrownies. He had been fortunate to escape being brought down early on when Lach Colleen fell and broke a leg.

Webber said: "I was pretty sure that in these conditions Auric Dot would not manage to give 6lb successfully to Mweenish, but that was just the way it turned out."

The Irish handicapper, though, had rated the winner much less highly and, even though the weights had been raised by 12lb overnight, Mweenish was still a full stone out of the handicap proper.

Mweenish, whose American owner, Peter Thompson, had flown over from Baltimore especially for the race, became the first English-trained winner of the Thyestes Chase since its inception in 1954. It was also the first occasion since the days of Arkle that the race had been covered live on Irish television.

Webber revealed that the success had been planned a long time ago. "My daughter is married to Patrick Kavanagh at Gowran Park and last summer started to make plans to have a go at the Thyestes. The winning jockey, Paddy Gill, also has local connections as he lives very close to the course."

Gill was deputising for the suspended Martin Lynch and Webber's only regret was that his usual jockey, Paddy Gill, had not been available. "Martin was really looking forward to coming back home to win on Mweenish but I couldn't have asked for a better substitute than Paddy."

On a day of surprises, the biggest disappointment was the fall of Cahervillougher in the Erroll Park Memorial Novices' Handicap Chase. He had been acclaimed as the country's best staying novice chaser but his jumping let him down here on his first attempt in handicap company.

He had made several mistakes before falling at the fourth fence and this removed the only possible danger to Porsheen. The winner, a graduate from the point-to-point scene, set off in front and made all the running to win very easily.

Desert Orchid option

By Christopher Goulding

Desert Orchid, now back in strong work after a bout of coughing, could make his first visit to Ireland for the P Z Maiden Chase at Thurles on February 14.

"It's a race we've considered for Desert Orchid for the last two years," Chris Hill, Desert Elsworth's secretary, said yesterday. "You have to keep your options open all the time."

Another possible engagement for Desert Orchid, the 4-1 favourite to repeat last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup victory, is the Agia Diamond Handicap Chase at Sandown Park on February 14. A race he won last year as the Gainsborough Chase.

Hill added: "Remember Captain Christy, back in 1974, he lost the 1974 Cheltenham Gold Cup but he won the Cheltenham Gold Cup."

He is sharing facilities this year with the Queen's long-serving trainer, Dick Hern, but will have room to expand next winter when he moves on to his new yard in County Wick.

Steve Wood, riding for the first time on Lingfield's Equitrac, completed a 32-1 double on Swing North and Raporteur, with Lee Davis, training. He has his first winner on Sir Rufus.

Desert Orchid, now back in strong work after a bout of coughing, could make his first visit to Ireland for the P Z Maiden Chase at Thurles on February 14.

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Trainers

Trainer	Winners	Runners	Per cent
T. McDermott	18	50	36.0
N. Sheppard	10	30	33.3
M. Phipps	7	20	35.0
J. P. O'Connell	5	15	33.3
M. Phipps	4	10	40.0

Jockeys

Jockey	Winners	Runners	Per cent
A. Adams	11	27	40.7
G. B. Ross	8	20	40.0
J. P. O'Connell	7	18	38.9
M. Phipps	6	15	40.0
N. Sheppard	5	12	41.7

Kadan gamble continues

Kadan, trained by Mark Tompkins, was again well backed yesterday for the £20,000-added Bide & Son Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle at Kempton Park tomorrow (George Rae writes).

Corals quote the improving six-year-old, unbeaten in three races this season, at 4-1, from 8-1 early in the week. He is a favourite (with a run), with Wonder Man at 11-4. Among the outsiders, John Jenkins's Atrial attracted attention at 16-1 and is now in 12-1.

The Jimmy Fitzgerald-trained

French Goblin dies

French Goblin died on Wednesday following an operation on the knee he fractured at Ascot last Saturday. The Josh Clifford-trained chaser suffered heart failure while anaesthetised.

Jones revels in leadership and reveals a subtle confidence with a maturing tactical awareness

Model captain sets exemplary standard

The new recruits playing in green

By George Ace



Jones: shows genuine world class

Robert Jones represents the very acceptable face of Welsh rugby. On Wednesday afternoon, he went through the drills in Wales's last training session before they meet France tomorrow, during which, as usual, he was unfatigable in the execution of his own finely-honed talents. The time this finished he was preparing to face the media, so often seen as hostile. He answered each question kindly, with courtesy and a smile. Welsh captains have not always been known to be so obliging.

There is no reason why a sportsman, even a national captain for that matter, should be articulate at skills other than those which he displays in the arena. But it helps. No reason why he should devote so much time pleasing a voracious band wagon of questioners, either. But the world expects its sporting heroes to do so. Fresh faced, clean cut, compact and dapper, Jones faced a couple of dozen scribblers, three television crews in turn, and four more radio interviews. Job done, he went home to tea. He set an exemplary standard throughout. The rest of the week he can now devote to a Swansea-based finance company for whom he works.

"All this goes with being a Welsh captain," he says. "I'm not



Gerald Davies

complaining. It has to be done. It is an additional pressure, but that's the position I'm in and one I've always wanted. I like to take command.

"I think I play better with responsibility. I like to do the talking myself, listen to the players and encourage them. In fact, a captain doesn't have to make too many decisions on behalf of a team. Players get on with their own game. But the ones the captain does make are usually the important ones." His first time was against the All Blacks.

He has captained teams at every level from the West Wales Under-11s, progressing through Cwmawte Comprehensive School and so on to play 12 times for the Welsh Schools. He played cricket, too.

At that stage, John Hiew Williams, rugby coach to the schools, forecast a glittering future for Jones, who has always played at scrum half. This was far more perceptive than a senior Welsh selector, who, when Jones was playing for Swansea whilst still at school but even then had that aura

of mature class, made the extraordinary comment that Jones had no part to play in his plans.

Within two years he was in the Welsh team and now four years later, at 24, he collects his 29th cap tomorrow.22 of these he reaped consecutively. But on the Wales tour to New Zealand in 1988 he was dropped for the second international in Auckland and was replaced by Jonathan Griffiths.

"I'm a better player for the experience," Jones reflects. "I became far more relaxed after that. The pressure had begun to build up within me and my game. Because I was so tense, I became stereotyped. I was taking the easy option, not risking anything. Others were saying that I didn't run often enough to take on the opposition."

Jones was straight-jacketing himself. Exclusion from the team released the self-imposed constraints.

"You begin to ask yourself what is the point of it all," he says. "What's all the worry for if this is what happens. There is no point in caring too much. So I don't any more. And I'm better for it. Nowadays I stand back a bit and find that, picking and choosing, I have more time to do things. I run a lot more than I did."

His best game for his country, the one when he stamped his unmistakable personality on a match had little, if anything, to do with running. It is not a particular favourite of his, preferring as he does Wales's match against Australia in the World Cup, but all other Welshmen, given also its extra piquancy, would choose last season's game against England. Played in atrocious conditions Jones took the game by the scruff of the neck and, with teasing kicks, he frustrated and nudged England into submission. Some disapproved of the style.

"The conditions quite often dictate the manner of the play," he rightly points out. "You cannot ignore it. Handling on that day was difficult. Our forwards were going well at scrum and lineout and I thought I'd try a few shots behind the English forwards. They paid off. But if England had reacted differently, the rest of the game might have been different. So I kept plunging away making them turn."

His passing, whichever way you please, is swift and accurate as it always has been. His tackling and work rate, especially in cover defence is of a high order. But such play as he showed then, and later with the Lions in Australia, is born of a more subtle confidence and a

maturing tactical awareness. It was not there two years ago against France when he and Jonathan Davies were not of such a mind and a grand slam win for Wales went adrift.

For all his matches he has remained, at 5ft 7ins and 11st-12st, and so close to the powerhouse, remarkable free of injury. Strength around shoulder, hip and thigh, may account for this along with his dedication to conditioning. A nimbleness of foot helps, too. He is in all things technically proficient. He is the only Welsh player of genuine world class, the best scrum half in the world.

"Everything seems to have gone right in our preparation for Saturday," he concludes. "Defence at forward and midfield is crucial against France. We're not tense. We have good players. We need to show it."

While some players shun of their rugby league offers, others swap clubs and jobs, and still others carry the stigma of bad behaviour, none of this attaches to him. Robert Jones is a model player and captain in this unstable time. Around him a Welsh team could be fashioned in a new image for the new decade.

Ireland's three new caps against England at Twickenham tomorrow. Peter Russell, the stand-off half, Gary Halpin, head prop, and Kenny Murphy, full back, have at least one other thing in common — all played for Ireland Schools.

Russell and Murphy have both served apprenticeships at provincial level whereas Halpin has still to win a Leinster jersey. The Wanderers' front row man is a quite remarkable character who has crammed a lot of living into his 23 years.

Russell, a bank official, and Murphy, who works in the family game business in Cork, knew what they were going to do from an early age. Russell went up to Queen's University after leaving Royal Belfast Academical Institution, before joining the bank, and Murphy was always going to work in the family business.

Halpin won a four-year athletics scholarship to Manhattan College, New York, and in his freshman year threw a javelin further than any other first-year student in the United States. In his final year he was the collegiate hammer champion. He reached the Olympic qualifying distance but a recurring ankle injury ruined his chances of selection for Seoul.

He created a very favourable impression during Ireland's short tour of North America before the start of this season and if his first cap has come as a result of injuries to other players, it can be confidently predicted that it will be the first of many.

Halpin has the ideal physique for a front-row forward. He stands around 6ft, tips the scales at over 17 stone, is immensely strong and has a rare turn of foot for a prop.

Russell, who missed a year's rugby with a bad knee injury after linking with Instonians, helped his recovery by mapping out a tough training schedule which he still adheres to. He missed a week and a half around on Sunday morning. His wife has her own ideas about it, but a new evening dress and an invitation to London for the game and the after-match celebrations has given her a new slant on life as a rugby widow. The dress is bought by her husband, not the IRFU.

Russell's game has taken on a new dimension over the last two seasons. Initially regarded as a kicking stand-off half, he has changed that image dramatically. A month short of his 23rd birthday, he now has the ability to stamp his authority on a match while his distribution is first class. He rarely takes the wrong option and Twickenham should hold no terrors for him.

Murphy, the same age as Halpin, will become the third member of the famous Cork family to represent Ireland. He is the son of Noel, capped 41 times in an international career that spanned 11 years, and a grandson of Noel senior, now deceased, a former president of the IRFU who won 11 caps in the early 1930s.

He is in his third season with Munster and his game really blossomed during the last international series when Munster finished second to Ulster. He had a splendid game against the All Blacks last November and played in the B international against Scotland at Murrayfield last month.

Bristol warn players on sendings-off

Bristol are warning all their players in writing about over-vigorous play following four sendings-off in the club this season (Michael Austin writes).

The disciplinary committee will send a letter of caution to Bristol, who could be suspended for a month and have all of their matches cancelled if two more players are dismissed in the next 3½ months. Peter Smith, a prop forward, is the only first-team player to be ordered off.

Bristol's ability to remain cool will be tested by Begles, a French club, at the Memorial Ground tonight.

Three Bristol forwards suffered facial injuries in last year's corresponding game.

Carling advocates caution against weakened Ireland

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

While Ireland and France have had to check in their tracks to overcome injuries as they prepare for tomorrow's opening round of the five nations' championship, and Wales have familiarized newcomers to team plays and old-comers to new positions, all has been quiet on the English front. It is very worrisome.

Ireland flew from Dublin to London yesterday, relieved to have suffered no further distress after the loss on Wednesday of Donal Lenihan, their most experienced forward, and Philip Rainey, their full back. England, meanwhile, worked in the sunshine at the Stoop Memorial Ground, fine-tuning for the Save and Prosper international at Twickenham for which they will be overwhelming favourites.

The England management, however, will be working hard to counter the tales of doom and gloom emanating from Ireland. "I don't presume Ireland are a weaker side," says Carling, the England captain, said at the end of a 100-minute session which embraced warm-up routines and work on unit skills — notably the back row, where Skinner, Winterbottom and Egerton will be playing together for the first time.

"They have been totally written off, no one is giving

them a hope. But they proved against New Zealand in November how hard they are to beat. Their defence is very strong and when they moved the ball and were able to put Crossan away they looked good."

Neil Francis, of Blackrock College, will win his sixth cap in place of Lenihan, who has a facial injury. Francis will bring a rumbustious vigour to the Irish second row, which will seem a strange place without Lenihan, who has played 43 games for Ireland in succession. Kenny Murphy, of Constitution, will make his debut at full back after playing well for Munster during the inter-provincial championship.

"It must be a blow to them, as it would be to anybody, to lose their first-choice lock," Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, said. "We know nothing about their new full back but it will obviously be a tremendous ordeal for him to start his international career at Twickenham."

For that matter, England have four players making their bow in the five nations' championship — Heekington, Bailey, Guscott and Egerton — but all have collected international experience elsewhere. "We are slightly more sure about our style of play and better acquainted with each

other than at this time last year," Carling said.

"We have tried to work out the situations we are likely to be faced with and impose our own style upon them. Last year we slipped up against two sides (Scotland and Wales) who probably read the situation on the day better than we did. There were times when we wanted to play an expansive game but it was too wet to do so all the time."

Carling admitted that England's having scored 58 points against both Fiji last October and Romania last May encouraged confidence, "but the five nations' is a different environment. It's more claustrophobic. But we have the players to move the ball wide and score tries."

England have won their last three games against Ireland — one a non-championship game in 1988 which celebrated Dublin's millennium — and Ireland's last visit to Twickenham brought them a 35-3 defeat in which Chris Oti scored three tries.

All of which means little to the England side. "Saturday will be a new landmark," Carling said. "You can't look back to two years ago or last year. This squad has to be right for this Saturday and to be able to reproduce our style against the other home countries who love nothing better than to beat England."

Tomorrow's match will be refereed by Patrick Robin, of France, who will be officiating in his first five nations' match, though his record includes Italy against Australia in 1988 and Scotland v Fiji last autumn. Robin, aged 40, is from Agen and takes the first of two appointments for France this championship season — their second is the game between Wales and Scotland.

Fred Howard, of England, will referee Wales v France and the southern-hemisphere official this season will be David Bishop, New Zealand's senior referee, who will take the final two championship games: Scotland v England, on March 17, and Ireland v Wales, on March 24.

England standing tall

ADRIAN BROOKS



Out of reach: Dooley, the lock forward, perfects his lineout drill during England's practice at Richmond yesterday

The jokers arrive late to ease the tension for France

By Chris Taux

Although physically there is no similarity between Jean-Baptiste Lafond, the full back and Jean Pierre Garuet, the tight-head prop, who have been recalled by France to face Wales in Cardiff tomorrow, they are both players of consummate skill and burning passion, humorous characters and genuine impersonations of French style and panache.

Garuet, the potato merchant and a third deputy of Lourdes, has become under the guiding hand of Jacques Fouroux, the French coach. He is a subtle connoisseur of the scrum, the cornerstone of the French forward effort.

There is little room for deceit and complacency in the subterranean world of front row forwards. It is the front line of rugby combat where hostilities are governed by an unwritten code of honour and where reputations are made over long periods of time and destroyed overnight.

Despite an incident in 1984, when he became the first French player to be sent off in an international match, Garuet has been universally acclaimed as a fair, yet awkward and tough customer, whose scrummaging technique has given the opposition hookers and tight heads, as well as countless referees, nightmares.

Garuet has earned the grudging respect of his opponents without losing the humour that made him such a popular electoral choice in the holy city of Lourdes.

He belongs to a world of wise old heads whose understanding

of the game is matched by the philosophical appreciation of the world. Garuet will note with amusement that he will always be second choice when the girls are around. Indeed Lafond, chic and graceful, would habitually steal the show.

When Blanco announced his unavailability for the Welsh game, though everyone was unhappy, no-one seemed unduly worried in France. Maybe because of his adventurous talent the French dub Lafond the "white Blanco". His humour matches his playing ability, never allowed to blossom for a long period of time, in a French jersey.

Lafond, together with his Racing Club friend, Frank Meunier, Eric Blanc and Philippe Guillard, formed the so-called "showbiz", a club within the club, dedicated to the lighter side of the game. The motto of the "showmen" has been play, surprise, amuse, and they set new standards of humour and joie de vivre.

Lafond's gang wore bow ties in the final of the French championship, plus-fours against Biarritz, and berets when playing against the Basques of Bayonne, the original club of Lafond's grandfather.

Together the two jokers, Lafond and Garuet, could, while injecting a smile in the tense dressing room atmosphere, help the French side overcome the trauma of the autumn build up and return home with a famous and very precious win.

Adair is selected after Hudson chooses Wales

John Hudson's decision to play for the Welsh Students against France yesterday has given Andrew Adair an opportunity to display his talents for the English Universities when they play Irish Universities at the London Irish ground today (David Hands writes). Adair, the Manchester hooker, will be joined by Moyoy, of Liverpool, who replaces Jones, the injured Loughborough lock.

The English Colleges also have their first outing of the season, when they play Irish Colleges at the Centenary ground, Osterley, West London Institute provide the English with six players, among them Appleton, the talented full back, while Subbani (wing) and Hinkins (prop), both from St Paul and St Mary, Cheltenham, offer substantial senior experience.

Several club matches are, in view of the televised international, being played tonight, among them Nottingham's

game against Wasps, when Taylor makes his first appearance of the year at hooker, and Bristol's encounter with Begles, the French club who will encounter one of their own, Thillet, on the Bristol wing.

Irish visitors to London also include Old Wesley, who play Rosslyn Park, and Tereure College, who play a London Irish side missing Staples at full back but otherwise at strength for a fraternal confrontation.

Phil John, the Wales B hooker, has cancelled a planned move to Swansea and is to stay with Pontypriid. He was due to play for the Swansea reserve team today but after talking to Pontypriid officials yesterday has decided to remain at Sardis Road.

John, a replacement for Wales against England last season, was overlooked for the international against France tomorrow, with his place on the bench going to Gerin Jenkins, of Pontypriid.

TABLE TENNIS

Prean seeks a reward for his superb season

Carl Prean could be rewarded for the best season of his career by a climb into the higher echelons of the European rankings if he can maintain his excellent form for the Stiga which takes place over the next three days in Hanover (Richard Eaton writes).

The Englishman, who is based in Greznan, enjoys playing in Germany and has three players in his group, Zoran Primorac, of Yugoslavia, Andrei Mazunov, of the Soviet Union, and Erik Lindh, of Sweden, and he is capable of beating. His other two opponents, Jorgen Persson, from Sweden, and Andrzej Grubba, the former world cup winner from Poland, have, however, always proved too difficult for him.

The favourite is the world champion and title-holder, Jan-Ov Waldner, who is in the other group. However, the Swede needs to improve on his performance in the English Open a beaten by a little known Frenchman, Nicholas Chetelain.

HOCKEY

Cotton faith in policy of kitchen heat

Bernard Cotton, the England manager, is optimistic that the policy of concentrating on playing against top-class sides in the build-up to the World Cup in Pakistan next month will bring its reward (David Hands writes). While England's results have sometimes been disappointing as they have attempted to blend promising young players with established internationals, Cotton has insisted that they should meet only the six leading nations in world hockey in order to gain experience.

"We have decided to bring on our young men in the heat of the kitchen and not in the scullery," Cotton said yesterday, a week before the side puts the final competitive touches to its preparation for Lahore in a four-nations tournament in Spain. Cotton is confident that Martyn Grimley and David Faulkner can fill the gap left by the retirement of Paul Barber after the Olympic Games.

Richard Leman, the England captain, confirmed yesterday that the World Cup would be his final important international tournament.

YACHTING

Dismasted Terlain abandons race

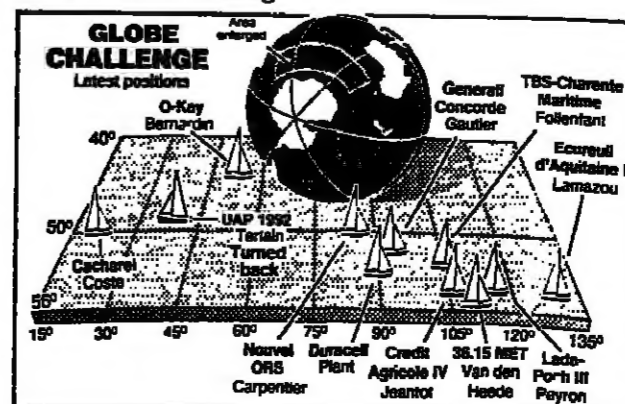
By Malcolm McKean

Jean-Yves Terlain, in UAP, has decided to abandon his attempt to finish the Globe Challenge non-stop singlehanded round-the-world race, 10 days after being dismasted in the South Atlantic. Terlain, of France, lost the rig of his 60ft solo sloop on January 8 when the mast collapsed in three pieces.

In a remarkable feat of single-handed seamanship, Terlain recovered the broken sections and, using the main boom of the yacht as a mizen-mast, re-rigged his boat as a ketch, declaring that he would continue in the race.

Since then he has averaged between three and five knots — about 100 miles a day — and was almost 2,000 miles behind the race leaders, with 15,000 miles of the race still to sail. Simple arithmetic makes continued participation pointless. UAP is headed for Cape Town, some 1,300 miles from her present position just south of King Edward Island in the South Atlantic.

Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, in his two-masted 36.15 Met, has moved up to third place behind Rhoan Lamerou and Loick Peyron. In a move similar to that which gave Martella OF a



short-lived lead in the Whitbread race in the same area, Heede has gone further south than his competitors. Martella lost out when the Whitbread fleet turned north for Australia but the Globe racers do not turn north — they race on direct for Cape Horn.

Only one Briton, Eddie Warden-Owen, ranked fourth, appears in the top 10 in the world-wide ranking system for match race sailors announced yesterday. Harold Cadmore, who skipped Britain's America's Cup 12-metre in Fremantle and made a brief return to the world

circuit last year, is ranked twelfth. The next best Briton is Tim Law, at 25th, followed by David Bedford, at 29th. Titch Blackford, who reached the quarter-finals of the British match race championship, is the leading woman, in 56th place.

In a separate development, the WMRC agreed to allow the IYRU access to the match race circuit by permitting the Union to describe the conference as an IYRU body, changing its name to the World Match Race Sailing Committee.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather + temp	Last snow
L	Piste	Off/P	(5pm)	°C	fall
ANDORRA					
Soldeu	20 95	fair varied	poor snow	-3	18/1
Very good skiing on upper slopes, snowing since midday					
AUSTRIA					
Mayerhofen	5 15	art none closed	snow	2	18/1
Very good snow on Hintertux glacier but crowded					
Obergurgl	20 80	worn varied	icy snow	0	18/1
Although many runs are rocky, good piste preparation					
St Anton	30 75	icy crust	art snow	1	18/1
Snow furries giving hope, pistes icy					
Schladming	5 20	icy crust	art rain	2	24/12
Very good skiing on Dachstein glacier					
FRANCE					
Chamonix	8 40	worn varied closed	fine	5	22/12
Skiing still available above 2,000m. Good glacier skiing with local guides					
Falke	3 40	icy rocky	art fine	-2	22/12
Pistes becoming moguled and worn. Icy patches and rocks on lower slopes					
Isola	15 40	icy varied	icy fine	-2	23/12
Seventeen pistes open, most have good snow but all have icy patches					
ITALY					
Courmayeur	10 45	fair poor closed	sun	6	23/12
Most lifts open, snow cannons making snow at night					
SWITZERLAND					
Arosa	10 30	fair crust	worn snow	-1	18/1
Good skiing on Hoemli, light snow falling					
Davos	10 60	fair varied closed	snow	0	18/1
Best skiing still on upper person pistes					
Grindelwald	0 5	worn none closed	snow	1	18/1
Oberbach still the only piste open, light snow falling					
Mürren	0 7	icy moguls closed	cloud	-3	15/1
Upper slopes remain icy with rocks showing through					
Saas Fee	3 70	fair varied closed	fine	-3	6/1
Good skiing on glacier above 2,400m, icy patches, no queues					
Villars	0 5	worn none closed	cloud	0	22/12
Very limited skiing above Erstberg					

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

Information supplied by the Italian Tourist Office.

Information supplied by the Norwegian National Tourist Office.

TOMORROW'S
SPORTRory Underwood
on the five
nations'
championshipLinford Christie
on his day
of drama
at the OlympicsGordon Cowans
on Aston Villa's
pursuit of
Liverpool

A demonstration of troubles to come

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

Mike Gatting's breakaway tour squad — the sad, the sour and the simply mercenary men of English cricket — left London for South Africa last night, rejecting a final and very public plea from the anti-apartheid movement to abandon their lucrative mission.

They tried to make a dignified exit, even convening a farewell press conference rather than indulge in charges of shameful secrecy. But the intentions of Gatting, the captain, and David Graveney, the touring side's player-manager, were compromised by the briefest hint of the resentful opposition to which they must quickly become hardened.

First, a photo-call was interrupted by a woman presenting Gatting with a letter, which at first he refused to accept, from Robert Hughes, the MP for Aberdeen North, chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement. Then, as Graveney, Gatting and John Embury faced the media in a hotel conference room, a second demonstrator loudly berated the captain, taunting him without response until being led away by hotel staff.

There were just three protesters in all. They had arrived together in an old car and they left in high spirits, apparently pleased to have given the players a foretaste of their immediate futures. As demonstrations go, it was a negligible token but its message was not lost.

Graveney cut short the picture session and seemed on the point of abandoning the press conference when, suddenly and cheerfully, the infiltrator agreed to leave. Despite their whereabouts being a closely guarded secret, the players had easily been un-



Getting the message: Mike Gatting is confronted with a demonstrator armed with another plea from the Anti-Apartheid Movement at the photo-call yesterday

earthed by those in opposition. It will be the same story, on a larger and more alarming scale, wherever they go in South Africa.

None, however, had a late change of heart. On a perfect, spring-like morning, all 16 chosen men arrived at their hotel in suburban Surrey and, publicly at least, there were no confessions of regret.

Gatting himself came the closest. His square-set features have worn a haunted expression more than once in the past two years and it was again in place yesterday as, pale and unsmiling, he con-

firmed the suspicions of all who know him well.

"In truth, I would rather be going to the West Indies with England," he said, before elaborating on the hitherto murky weeks when he debated reversing his decision. "I had some talks with certain members of the Test and County Cricket Board during August. It all fell through because I did not receive certain assurances."

Quite what Gatting sought from the board is unclear. Quite why the board was engaged in doing any sort of deal is another mystery. The

collapse of negotiations, however, condemned this disillusioned man to a role he shows few signs of relishing.

Glib diplomacy is foreign to him, hence his ungarded and oft repeated admission, back in August, that he knew very little about apartheid. Yesterday, he was anxious to point out that he had been sweating up on the subject. As so often with this essentially straightforward sportsman, a political statement sounded slightly absurd.

The matter of why Gatting's tour contract remains un-

signed was not adequately explained. "I have their word and they have mine. That should be good enough," he said, but his further claim that the problem stemmed from his late recruitment holds no water. Greg Thomas and Allan Wells were added to the party a month later and their contracts are signed.

Gatting has received threats, some of them ugly, as have many of the players. He has had the windows of his north London home reinforced. He is going, he says, in the full expectation that

matches will be interrupted. "We will have people coming on the field for sure. I just hope that they protest peacefully and they are dealt with peacefully."

Graveney's eloquence and standing in the game has given credibility to the venture. He has insisted on a team uniform and he will insist on discipline. Now, he spoke for his players on the safety fear. "We all read the papers. We are human beings and we are obviously concerned. We would have to be a bit strange to ignore it all. But until we

arrive, none of us can properly judge the mood."

The players have not practised together during their preparations. Graveney feared it would be provocative. Now, they will not be going into the black townships to coach, for a very similar reason. With this decision, one more justification for the tour has collapsed.

All they are left with is a lot of money for 26 days of cricket in seven weeks — if the demonstrators allow it. And will they win? Gatting fell for it. "Actually," he said, "I don't know much about South Africa's players."

Bacher rejects an offer of compromise

From Richard Streeton
Johannesburg

A few hours before Mike Gatting and his team left London, the National Sports Congress (NSC) made a final, unsuccessful appeal to the South African Cricket Union (SACU) here yesterday to abandon the tour. In return the NSC said it believed it would be feasible, within six months, to negotiate the formation of one organization for South African cricket, uniting all races.

"It is not too late even at this stage to cancel the tour and I want to reiterate the offer I first made last October," Krish Naidoo, the NSC general secretary, said. "There is a lot of goodwill on our side but it can only be diminished by

the tour, which will also lower support for SACU's development work in the townships."

Naidoo said there were only the two governing bodies for cricket in the Republic, the SACU and the South African Cricket Board. "We would be prepared to start talking immediately and unification could be completed within six months. This tour can only be a step backwards for South African cricket."

The NSC is the sporting arm of the Mass Democratic Movement and has emerged as the most active opponents of the tour. Naidoo will be among an estimated 1,500 demonstrators expected to be protesting at the airport today when the English players arrive.

Shortly before Naidoo made his final appeal, Dr Ali Bacher, SACU's managing director, had confirmed that nothing would stop the tour from going ahead. He knew of the NSC's proposal, as well as those from those opposing the tour.

He said he appreciated that his own future was at stake and the tour and the difficult decisions involved with it had affected him emotionally. Nobody, though, could guarantee what lay ahead politically in the coming year. "I weighed everything up and have no qualms that the wrong decision has been made," he said.

Meanwhile, the possibility that the continuous actions of anti-apartheid protesters

could degenerate into violence has brought an early warning from General Johan van der Merwe, South Africa's police commissioner. A statement from his Pretoria office said that any violence committed would be viewed extremely seriously.

The police would not hesitate to take "drastic action" against the perpetrators or those who behaved in a manner which could lead to violence. "I wish to assure the public that the police will perform their duty actively and purposefully in order to protect spectators and players," the statement said.

Elsewhere, in Pretoria a Government spokesman declined to comment on the tour, which, it was felt, was a matter

for the cricket authorities alone.

SACU has finally disclosed how the forthcoming seven-week tour will be financed. In recent months there has been speculation that SACU were hard pressed to find sponsors. This followed the bomb scares and other protests which ensued after the involvement of the First National Bank and other businesses in the tour by an international rugby union side last August.

To avoid firms being subjected to a reputation of this, Dr Bacher said the SACU had rejected the sponsorship offers it had received and would rely solely on gate receipts and the sale of television rights. The Government's controversial tax release for firms sponsor-

ing sport would therefore not be a factor.

The tour would cost four million rand (about £1 million). SACU expected about 200,000 people would watch the games and hoped to obtain two million rand from this source after the provincial union staging the match had taken 12.5 per cent for administrative costs.

The other two million rand needed would come from a deal with the state-owned South African television service which would show 80 hours of live cricket. Should gate receipts exceed the predicted amount, these and any other profit would be ploughed back into the game at lower levels. No direct Government subsidy was involved in the tour at all, he stressed.

Legal hurdle
fails to
halt Gatting

Mike Gatting and John Embury were cleared to fly to South Africa by two High Court judges yesterday. Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan quashed summonses by Marylebone magistrates requiring the cricketers to attend the trial of eight demonstrators who held up a match at Lord's.

This is not due to held until January 25, which would have meant the captain missing the opening match.

There were about a dozen demonstrators at Heathrow airport to see the team off last night. "Is this what you call a demonstration?" Gatting asked, adding that he had no qualms about going.

END COLUMN
Concern
over a
Chinese
puzzle

By Richard Eaton

This weekend, the national council of the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) expects to begin its discussions on how it might make use of the biggest windfall ever to land on its doorstep, the extraordinary Chinese player, Chen Xinxun.

Chen is one of the greatest players of the 1980s, and arguably the greatest exponent of an attractive yet dying breed — the nimble-footed, away-from-the-table defenders.

But Chen is more than that, a player who combines defence and attack, back spin and top spin, in such unusual rhythms and combinations that it is like hearing simultaneously new arrangements of two old songs and finding they unexpectedly harmonise.

Chen is also a showman and a philosopher, an acrobat and a thinker, and an easy, warm-hearted communicator, even with people whose culture and language have been mysterious to him. He has a thousand Europeans eating out of his hand during his exploits at the English Open two weeks ago.

Those spectators warmed to the person as much as to the player. There seems little doubt, therefore, that if everything were to go right, Chen Xinxun, the fellow from Fekien who chose a wife and a home in Huddersfield, could become the biggest celebrity the game has ever seen.

Can there be any doubts that he should be welcomed and selected for England as soon as possible after May? To some people, there are. Indeed, Chen's situation may be hoisted around amid lively argument before the exact course of his future is decided.

There remains those with worries about whether people



Chen: awaits celebrity status will relate to him, despite his televised heroics at the Open. If so, the likely proposal from the ETTA chairman, John Preen, that Chen be required to have a British passport as well as satisfy the ITTF two-year domicile rule, may gain ground. There are even some who question whether, at the age of 30 this month, he is really a long-term prospect.

What some of Chen's sceptics appear to have overlooked is that, because he was ordered to throw matches as part of China's communal philosophy, he sees himself as an under-achiever. He might have been world champion. He has dreams to be resurrected.

There are also those who question Chen's commercial ambitions once he has a passport which will free him to come and go to the more affluent table tennis countries of Europe. Will the lure of the lucre prove too strong? Does he have a genuine loyalty to his adopted homeland?

Two new developments may give some answers to those questions. On Sunday, Chen is giving his services to 40 disabled players at a sports hall in Preston. Free, gratis and for nothing. This does not seem like the action of a financial opportunist and, this week, he has been home-hunting in Chesterfield.

He wants to move to take him nearer to a nucleus of players, including Alan Cooke, Desmond Douglas and Bradley Billington, who could provide important practice. And also to be closer to a new business partner, who hopes to set Chen up with several deals as coach and entertainer in British holiday camps throughout the summer.

All this hints at long-term economic and athletic planning in this country, and suggests that he may be taken on trust. But the battle to win hearts and minds is not over. Xinxun apparently means New China. Will he be accepted as part of the New England?

President is deselected

By Martin Searby

Viscount Mountgarret, the man who "beat the bat" in a call for unity in Yorkshire cricket, will not be nominated as president of the club for a further term at next month's annual general meeting following a debate at Headingley.

Lord Mountgarret was left standing outside the committee room for 45 minutes before he was given the news of his deselection by Brian Close, acting chairman of the general committee in the absence of Brian Walsh, QC, and he immediately left. It was an undignified retreat for the man who took on a position no one else wanted in 1985 after the new committee, which overturned Yorkshire's old guard, spent six months

approaching men of similar stature. He won a standing ovation at his first AGM when he told a packed meeting in a Leeds hotel: "Hailsham rang the bell for Britain and I'm beating the bat for Yorkshire."

But if the committee wanted a puppet Mountgarret was the wrong man; he took centre stage, as he put it, "knocking a few heads together" to get a common-sense approach to the county's problems.

His style ruffled a number of feathers but he made an immense contribution as the county entered a decade of new optimism with a cricket manager and a young captain. "I am saddened and very hurt rather than angry at the

way I have been treated," he said yesterday. "I have always made it clear that I would not stay where I was not wanted, but to be left standing about for three quarters of an hour made me feel as though I were on the carpet. I cannot but think there was a more dignified way to go about things if I was not wanted. I really am astonished by such an extraordinary behaviour."

The Yorkshire committee clearly wants a president who is prepared to be a mere figurehead and keep his nose out of the club's affairs. Yorkshire had no comment to make on Lord Mountgarret's demise but the committee will meet on Sunday to consider a nomination to put before the AGM.

FA decides referee
acted improperly

By Dennis Signy

Alan Robinson, the first senior referee to be called before the Football Association's disciplinary committee, was "bitterly disappointed" when he was found guilty yesterday of "improper behaviour" at a two-hour hearing at Lancaster Gate.

Robinson, aged 52, the public relations officer for the Referees' Association, said he would consider an appeal after the three-man commission found the case against him approved. The offence related to statements made by Robinson in an article in a national newspaper following the game at Highbury between Arsenal and Norwich City last

November which resulted in both clubs being fined.

Robinson escaped further punishment, with Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the FA, saying: "Having regard to all the circumstances there will be no further action on this occasion."

Robinson, who refereed the 1986 FA Cup final when Liverpool beat Everton 3-1, said he had no comment to make. "I might say something I might regret in future. I am bitterly disappointed over it all."

Robinson requested a personal hearing and vigorously refuted the charge, which was brought by the FA.

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Finance chief
resigns from
Universiade

The head of finance for the company organizing the World Student Games, to be held in Sheffield next year, has resigned, it was disclosed yesterday (Peter Davenport writes). An official announcement said that Danny Simson, who had been with Universiade GB Ltd for 15 months, had left his post for "personal reasons" to return to his family at their home in Edinburgh.

Simson was appointed by Peter Burns, the company's former chief executive, who was dismissed shortly before Christmas.

It was acknowledged by sources close to the company last night that, although there was no question of any wrongdoing in connection with the finances, Simson had felt under pressure because of the criticism of the financial running of the company.

Tycoon to
aid Games

Hong Kong (AFP) — A Hong Kong business tycoon has donated 10 million Hong Kong dollars (about £788,000) for the Asian Games in Peking in spite of boycott calls from students in protest at the Tiananmen Square massacre of June 4.

Li Ka-shing has extensive business links in China and has contributed to various projects, including a university and hospital in his hometown of Shantou, in southern China.

Scramble in

A new competition for amateur golfers, making use of the scramble format, is to be launched this year in Great Britain and Ireland by William Teacher and Sons in association with Golf World.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Wattana: coffee contract

Big break

James Wattana, the Thai snooker professional playing in his first season, has been given a one-year £50,000 contract, with a further one-year option, to endorse Nescafé coffee. When able to do so, Wattana will wear the company's logo on his waistcoat, and his manager, Tom Moran, will press for a change of rules to permit him to do so in televised British tournaments.

Prize winner

Lawrie Madden, aged 34, the long-serving Sheffield Wednesday defender, is to receive an MA degree in leisure management from Sheffield University tonight. Madden already holds a BA in economics from Manchester University and a diploma in market research from North-East London Polytechnic.

Bears play

Birmingham's team for the International League of American Football, which gets under way in April, will be known as Birmingham Bears.

Boxing shrine

The thatched cottage where Bob Fitzsimmons, Britain's only world heavyweight champion, was born, is to be turned into a boxing museum after being sold at a knock-down price of £34,000.

Formula One
race planned
for Donington

Donington Park is planning to host its first official Formula One motor race since 1938 at Easter. Tom Wheatcroft, owner of the Derbyshire circuit, has been negotiating with the Formula One Constructors' Association to stage the meeting on April 15 and 16.

The proposal was discussed at a meeting of Formula One team directors in London last week and a decision is expected shortly.

The race would not be part of the World Championship, but could expect to attract a top-class entry, as it would fill a long gap in the championship calendar between the Brazilian Grand Prix on March 25 and the San Marino event on May 13.

Donington hosted the British Grand Prix from 1935 to 1938.